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CNMI govt pays $101,638 to Radich's two lawyers. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

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'New investors could've used H visas'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

New investors could have used the H visa category when it came to hiring foreign construction workers that would support their ongoing projects on Saipan instead of getting them also under the CNMI-Only Transition Worker nonimmigrant visa or CW program, which has a cap of 12,998 for fiscal year 2017.

Last Friday, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced that the CW-1 numerical limit had already been reached, even though there are still 10 months left in the new fiscal year.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) believes this could have been avoided had only these new businesses hired H workers for construction jobs since it has an unlimited cap for the CNMI.

See H VISAS on Page 4

Peter, Limes honored at ukulele festival

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Two island luminaries—legendary cultural performers Dave Kapileo Peter and Ana Pialur Limes—were honored at the 2016 Ukulele Festival held last Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base.

The event kicked off with a performance by the Saipan Commu-

See PETER on Page 4

The Saipan Community School Ukulele Band performs as the first act of the Ukulele Festival held at the Garapan Fishing Base last Saturday.

ERWIN ENCINARES

New direct flights from Korea arrive

ERWIN ENCINARES

TanHoldings vice president Ivan Quichocho, leftmost, Eastar Jet president and chief executive officer Kim Jung Shik, center, and Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, second from right, have their picture taken after the inaugural flight of Eastar Jet yesterday at the Francisco C. Ada International Airport.

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

An Eastar Jet Boeing 737-800 plane touched down at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport yesterday, marking the inaugural flight of the low-cost Korean airline's regular service to the CNMI.

After launching their first flight in 2009, the Korean airline would be adding Saipan to their list of routes, which includes 26 routes.

Eastar Jet would be offering flights from Incheon, South Korea, to Saipan and vice versa once a day.

Eastar Jet chief executive officer and president Kim Jung Shik was one of the passengers of the inaugural flight to Saipan and was happy to finally debut the service to the island.

"This is our first flight to Saipan,

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14 Days Before ELECTION DAY

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BUSINESS
An AT&T and Time Warner merger may not do consumers much good.

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NATION
Newly confident and buoyant in the polls, Hillary Clinton is looking past Donald Trump.

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ASIA
President Rodrigo Duterte's remarks create a "climate of uncertainty" about his intentions.

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Local

Chamber candidates' forum starts tonight

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The three-day 2016 Saipan Candidates Public Forum begins tonight with the islands' two senatorial candidates and the 11 contenders for the six Precinct 1 seats taking the hot seat. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce organized the forum with SCC coordinator Nicolas S. Palacios as moderator.

Tickets for the forum, to be held from 6pm to 9pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, are $10 each and can be bought at the SCC office at the third floor of the Marianas Business Palaza (formerly Nauru Building) in Susupe. Space is limited to 100 persons only.

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), which was elected to finish the remaining term of then-senator Ray N. Yumul, is running for re-election against the former independent lawmaker who ran as Heinz Hofschneider's running mate in 2014.

It is a crowded race in Precinct 1 and 3, the largest in the CNMI, as it has 24 candidates vying for 12 seats in the House of Representatives.

Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Angel A. Demapan, Joseph "Leepan" T. Guerrero, Janet U. Maratita, Gregorio M. Sablan Jr., and Antonio P. Sablan are the Republican candidates for Precinct 1 in the House.

Deleon Guerrero, Demapan, Guerrero, and Sablan are incumbents seeking for another term while Maratita is a former lawmaker with Greg Sablan an ex-director of the Veterans Affairs Office.

Roman C. Benavente and Edwin K. Propst are members of the independent bloc in the House with Joseph A. Flores vying for another seat also under their ticket. Anthony I. Duenas and Ana S. Teregeyo are also running as independents.

It will be Saipan Municipal Council candidates Luis John Castro and Diego L. Kaipat's turn to face the public along with the 12 other individuals that are contesting the six House seats.

Former vice speaker Francisco S. Dela Cruz leads the Republican ticket that includes Donald C. Barcinas, GOP spokesperson Ivan A. Blanco, and Jose I. Itibus. They will be up against incumbents Blas Jonathan T. Attao, Anthony T. Benavente, Ramon A. Tebuteb, Edmund J. Villagomez, and Ralph N. Yumul from the independent bloc.

Hofschneider, a former House speaker, and Stanley T. Torres are trying to make a comeback running as independents along with Vicente C. Camacho.

There are 13 candidates vying for a total of six seats in Precincts 2, 4, and 5. House speaker Rafael S. Demapan and Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair John Paul P. Sablan are trying to get re-elected in Precinct 2 with Vicente A. Ichihara running as an independent in the same area.

House majority leader George N. Camacho and Alice S. Igitol are the Republican candidates in Precinct 4 with incumbent Vinson Edward F. Sablan, Aaron Jay Murdock, and Joseph K. Ruak running as independents.

Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero is the member of the independent bloc in the 19th Legislature vying for one of the two seats in Precinct 5 with Antonio R. Agutlo, Francisco C. Aguon, James Anthony D. Cabrera, and Antonio M. Camacho vying for the other slot to be vacated by Rep. Francisco Taimanao who decided not to seek re-election.

CEC starts distribution of roster of voters

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission started distributing yesterday its roster of voters for the Nov. 8 general election at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

The CEC will start today, Tuesday, distributing the list of voters or the roster of voters at the Tinian Mayor's Office and at Rota Mayor's Office.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez told *Saipan Tribune* that they have to post the list of the names of voters at the mayors' offices in the CNMI so voters will know where their designated polling sites are.

"If they have questions, we have the list in our office in Susupe," she said.

Villagomez also reiterated that the polling sites for this Nov. 8 election are the same places that were designated during the last election.

» Polling sites are the same designated places from last election

The designated polling sites are the following:

■ Precinct 1A (San Antonio): Hopwood Junior High School

■ Precinct 1B (San Vicente): Dandan Elementary School

■ Precinct 1C (Koblerville): Koblerville Youth Center

■ Precinct 2 (Chalan Kanoa/Susupe: Joeten Kiyu Public Library

■ Precinct 3A (Oleai): Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium

■ Precinct 3B (Garapan): Garapan Elementary School

■ Precinct 4A (Tanapag): Tanapag Elem. School

■ Precinct 4B (San Roque): Gregorio T. Camacho Elem. School

■ Precinct 4C (Capitol Hill): Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building

■ Precinct 4D (Northern Islands): Northern Islands

■ Precinct 5 (Kagman): Kagman Elem. School

■ Precinct 6 (Tinian): Tinian Elem. School

■ Precinct 7 (Rota): Northern Marianas College campus-Rota.

Woman's conviction affirmed in 2014 fake marriage case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the conviction of a woman in a fake marriage case.

The Ninth Circuit judges determined that there was sufficient evidence to convict Xiaoying Tang and that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, who presided over the trial, did not err in refusing Tang instructions on materiality and marriage.

In their memorandum and opinion last week, the Ninth Circuit judges also ruled that the underlying statutory definition of marriage is not unconstitutionally vague.

Ninth Circuit Judge Consuelo M. Callahan penned the opinion. Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas and Judge Mary H. Murguia concurred.

In January 2014, a federal jury found Tang, a native of China, guilty of three charges: conspiracy to defraud the U.S., visa fraud, and making a false statement.

Tang filed post-trial motions, but the court denied them.

In May 2014, Manglona sentenced Tang to two years of probation and ordered her to immediately report to an immigration official for removal.

Tang, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, appealed, asking the Ninth Circuit to reverse her conviction. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe argued for the U.S. government's opposition.

On appeal, Tang challenged the authority of the District Court to try her. She also asserted that there was not enough evidence connecting her to the false statement in an I-130 Form.

Tang argued that Manglona erred in refusing her instructions on materiality and marriage. She asserted that the underlying statute defining marriage is unconstitutionally vague and violates due process.

In affirming Tang's conviction, the Ninth Circuit judges said that Tang's challenge to the NMI District Court's authority fails in light of U.S. Supreme Court precedent that has rejected challenges similar

See WOMAN on Next Page

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Muna caution against changing CHCC structure

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive office Esther L. Muna, MHA, cautions against changing the organizational structure of CHCC, especially now that it has improved the hospital's standards despite the lack of funds. Muna spoke to lawmakers last Thursday with some of her comments directed at House Bill 19-186.

HB 19-186, introduced by Rep. Felicidad T. Ogumoro (R-Saipan), is an act to give the board of trustees the powers and duties of governing, managing, and controlling the affairs of CHCC. The CEO currently has those powers under the law, Public Law 16-51. That same law gives the seven-member board an advisory role only.

Muna said CHCC has some concerns with HB 19-186 as the Committee Report 19-136 by the House Health and Welfare Committee chaired by Ogumoro has no clear reason why as a repealer and reenactment for PL 16-51 is necessary.

"Most of the members of the Joint Health Committees acknowledged [in last week's] hearing that there were significant improvements at CHCC. Some of those improvements would not have occurred if it weren't for the structure created by PL 16-51," said Muna.

"So I am requesting that caution should be made when changing a structure that has managed to ensure there are improvements to our health system and ensure quality standards are set, despite the lack of funding this structure receives on the annual appropriation."

The hospital board usually specifies financial objectives, ensure capital is effectively located, enhance credit worthiness, and advocate for the hospital in all arenas.

"CHCC is not just a hospital as we are also responsible for all public health services, public behavioral health services, and public clinics on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. A politically appointed board which 'governs, manages, and controls' the CHCC runs far outside the lines of best practices," she added.

Senate vice president Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) lauded Muna and her entire team at CHCC for getting over a lot of challenges like the lack of funding. "Funding continues to be an issue and we are impressed with the limited resources they have, they've gone over the real challenges."

Muna, doctors, and other staff attended last week's Joint Committee on Health and Welfare Committee meeting since the transmittal of HB 19-186 was part of the agenda where they wanted to make sure legislators won't act on it.

"The bill wants to reorganize CHCC's current organizational structure," said Palacios. "Whether we want to keep going back and forth, I think we need to get input from CHCC and from the community members so that once and for all we could come up with an organized structure that would stabilize healthcare system." ***(Jon Perez)***

House congratulates Tasi Tours

In celebration of the 40th anniversary of Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc., the leading tour operator in the CNMI was congratulated and saluted by the 19th House of Representatives last Sept. 15.

According to the resolution the House adopted, Tasi Tours & Transportation and its affiliates have been leading the charge in trying to bring back the CNMI's fruitful tourism industry.

"Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc., in combination with the Japan Travel Bureau, and its affiliates Pacific Micronesia Tours Inc., has been the leading pioneer in the growth and development of the tourism industry in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc. has also been assisting the local economy by having a 62 percent local workforce.

According to House Resolution 19-49, "Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc. is a model company to the CNMI, leading the efforts in strengthening the tourism industry as well as unselfishly contributing immensely to the community."

Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc. is a transportation business that was founded on March 24, 1985. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

Judge finds probable cause to charge suspected 'ice' source

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found probable cause yesterday to charge Yan Lung Yu, who was tagged as a source of methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

At a preliminary hearing, Camacho found probable cause to believe that the crime of conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance was committed and that Yu may have committed the offense.

Camacho ordered the 33-year-old Yu to answer the charge.

At the hearing, assistant attorney general Chester Hinds, counsel for the government, called to the witness stand police detective Roque Camacho, who told the court about their investigation that led to the defendant's arrest.

Attorney Joseph E. Horey appeared as court-appointed counsel for Yu.

After the hearing, Yu was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Yu has been under detention for failing to post a $100,000 cash bail.

CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force agents, along with Department of Public Safety police officers and CNMI Customs K9 Unit, arrested Yu, Juan Delos Reyes Tydingco, Jesse Aguon Villagomez, and a woman while they were serving an arrest warrant on Tydingco at his residence in As Lito last Sept. 23.

DETF said during an interview, Tydingco confessed that Yu has been his source of "ice" for over a year now.

Tydingco allegedly stated that prior to the arrival of DETF agents last Sept. 23, Villagomez handed him $300 to help him buy "ice."

Tydingco allegedly called Yu to purchase $300 worth of "ice." ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

H VISAS

From Page 1

"Construction workers that were hired as CW-1s eat up the cap but getting them under the H visas is basically the most immediate solution to this issue," he said.

Worse, the local Department of Labor has granted some of these new companies waivers on the law that requires 30 percent local hires.

Despite having only 15 session days in Congress, Sablan said the congressional committee staff has been asking him on every detail of the CW-1 program, like which companies avail of these waivers, how many employees, and how many CW-1 workers are going to be affected.

The CNMI has an average of 9,000 existing CW-1 employees under a continuously shrinking cap.

Sablan said these new investors were granted U.S.-local hire exemptions that could have been used for the renewals of professionals or skilled workers. Some of these new businesses were granted two-year waivers where they are not even required to comply with the 30 percent local hire.

"Around 1,800 went to foreign [construction] workers. That is why we hit the cap last May and again this week. It could have been avoided if the government had ground rules with the new investors. The CNMI could have not allowed the waiver. The one that are suffering are local businesses and the long-time foreign workers," said Sablan.

He said what the government could do is to withdraw all of the waivers and let these investors comply with the 30 percent local hire requirement. That would mean more jobs for local residents and at the same time free the CW-1 cap that could benefit all businesses.

The administration said in a statement that the last exemption waiver that was issued was in May of this year. "Since then, there has been a moratorium on granting exemptions at the direction of the governor. The exemptions are only for the 30 percent local hire requirement. Even without the exemptions, the CW cap would still be encumbered by the large presence of construction workers, which is something the governor has tried to limit but is ultimately a decision of USCIS and not the local government," the Office of the Governor statement said.

Sustaining development

Sablan said the local government must learn from the past in order to avoid the same thing that happened when the clothing and garment industries were thriving in the CNMI. That did not end well after factories closed one at a time based on issues on trade and high labor costs in the Commonwealth.

"I just wish that we had learned from that. The local government must manage the growth in our islands, which can only sustain so much development. There's a $13-billion proposal on Saipan and Tinian and another multibillion-dollar investment on Rota. How much development can we sustain?"

Sablan said the effects of the continued developments would soon strain the island's infrastructure. "We will all suffer. We are seeing traffic, there will be an increased use in water and other utilities, and there are only two sewer processing plants on the island. The power plant is over 40 years old. If we get all these developers hooked up, what will happen?"

KOREA

From Page 1

and we are very happy to be here. Korea and Saipan has had a very long and rich tourism history, and we are very proud to be part of that history. We hope to be serving even more flights to Saipan," said Kim.

Eastar Jet would be using the Boeing 737-800, an extended airliner that could comfortably sit 189 passengers.

"We didn't do that much marketing, so we didn't have that much passengers. We have 112 to be exact, which does not include us. Including the crew, there are about 124," he added.

The passengers were tourists, most of whom are first-time visitors to Saipan, including the Korean CEO.

After relating the hurdles the Korean airline company had to go through, Kim touted the economic benefits they could possibly bring to the CNMI.

"We've always wanted to come to Saipan but it has always been very difficult. There are Transportation Security Administration regulations [and more] that make it a little bit more difficult to fly here compared to other Southeast Asian countries," he said.

"We'll fly approximately 5 million passengers a year. It took us eight years to get to Saipan, but we're finally here," he added.

Eastar Jet claims that it is looking into a long-term relationship with Saipan.

"We're flying daily, and the thing that might be a little different compared to other airlines that fly here is that most of them do night flights, so they arrive on Saipan in the evening," said Kim.

PETER

From Page 1

nity School Ukulele Band, followed by Irish ukulele player Susan O'Donohoe, and capped by electrifying numbers by Japanese ukulele players Yuta Uchiumi with his family and Yusuke Saito and Korean ukulele strummer Blues Lee.

The ukulele festival, which is the first of its kind in Micronesia, got started because of Peter.

"We started the ukulele fest because the late legendary Dave Kapileo Peter always talked about it to KKMP," said KKMP personality and Marianas Ukulele Festival Association vice chair Gordon Marciano.

"We got together with Larry [Lee] and Radio KKMP, and we finally kicked it off two years ago. It was the same time when Uncle Dave [Peter] was leaving for medical. When he returned, he heard us live because we were streaming, and he was happy. The first thing he said was 'Outstanding,'" reminisced Marciano.

"At least you guys are the first one to start it off in Micronesia," Marciano recalled Peter as saying.

Marciano thanked the Commonwealth Center for Arts and Culture for making this possible.

"With the support of everybody, most importantly the CCAC, thank you for the stage, thank you for the lights, thank you for the sound system. They're the ones that really came through," he said.

Marciano said that the festival was intended to honor both Peter and Limes.

The ukulele festival initially aimed to just have local performances, said Marianas Ukulele Festival Association chair Larry Lee, but international ukulele performers wanted to join the festival as well.

"The plan for the uke festival was to showcase local talent; however [we] could not pass the opportunity for international talent, so [we] went with both," said Lee.

"We were able to bring in a performer from Japan and also one from Korea," he added.

O'Donohoe was one of the international ukulele players who performed last Saturday. Marciano said O'Donohoe already played the ukulele in previous Thursday Night Markets.

"My love for ukulele started from listening to Brother Iz (Israel Kamakawiwo'ole) on YouTube. This is where I heard the song *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* and thought that song was a very beautiful song in addition to the way he sung it and also just the video where they were spreading his ashes," she said.

"I heard about the uke festival from Gordon [Marciano]. I came to Saipan about a month ago, came to see the Night Market in Garapan, played a few songs, and Gordon asked me to come along as well," she added.

O'Donohoe said the sound of a ukulele is more beautiful to her than that of the banjo, which she formerly played.

"I am delighted because to me, one of the most beautiful sounds in the world is the ukulele. I love to be surrounded by that sound. I used to play the banjo, but I've moved away from it because the ukulele has a more mellow, beautiful, and rich tone, so I'm delighted that so many people have so much love for this instrument on this island," said O'Donohoe.

WOMAN

From Page 3

to hers.

The judges said they affirm what they previously stated in an unpublished memorandum: the NMI District Court was properly established by Congress under Article 4 and is empowered to hear federal criminal cases.

Despite Tang's arguments, the judges said there is more than enough evidence from which the jury could have found that she knew of the misinformation in the application and that it was asserted under penalty of perjury.

On the statutory definition of marriage, the judges said Tang has not made a persuasive case for vagueness.

The judges said the evidence indicates that Tang and her boyfriend Shahadat Hossain (known as Chico) approached Jesse Dowai with the intent to evade immigration laws.

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OAG sanctioned for 'frivolous' appeal in Sablan's traffic case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court has sanctioned the CNMI government for filing a frivolous appeal over the acquittal of former education commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan in a traffic case.

The justices ordered the Office of the Attorney General pay the high court's clerk $150 as sanction and Sablan $150 in single cost incurred in the appeal.

The justices dismissed the government's appeal.

Because Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho did not invalidate a statute but merely clarified the term "owned or leased," the Commonwealth had no right to appeal Camacho's judgment, said the high court opinion penned Friday by Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and concurred by Associate Justices John A. Manglona and Perry B. Inos.

Accordingly, the justices said, they find the government's appeal frivolous as it had no prospect of succeeding on the merits.

In a footnote to their order, the justices said their decision does not foreclose the government's right to appeal a criminal case where a statute had been held invalid.

"In the future, the Commonwealth is recommended to state in its notice of appeal that it is seeking a bifurcated appellate review on a point of law from a judgment of acquittal," the justices said.

At a bench trial last April 27, Camacho found Sablan not guilty of the violation of restriction upon use of government vehicles such as driving a government vehicle that does not bear a government license plate, driving an unmarked government vehicle, and operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows.

In granting Sablan's motion for acquittal, Camacho found that the prosecution has failed to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the car being driven by Sablan is a government vehicle as defined in the Traffic Code, requiring a lease of 12 months or more.

Camacho ruled that because the lease agreement was expired, the law no longer requires the car to be considered a government vehicle. Because the car was no longer a government vehicle, it was no longer required to display a government license plate and markings and removal of tinting material.

The vehicle in question, a four-door 2011 Honda Accord sedan, is registered to "Joeten Motor Dept." and leased to the Public School System.

The government appealed the judgment of acquittal. Subsequently, Sablan, through assistant attorney general Brien Sers Nicholas, sought to have the appeal dismissed and the government sanctioned.

Nicholas argued that the appeal is frivolous because a judgment of acquittal is not appealable.

In response, the government, through assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley, moved for a voluntary dismissal of the appeal and opposed Sablan's motion for sanctions.

Baisley argued that the appeal is not frivolous because the statute allows the government to appeal on a point of law without seeking reversal of an acquittal.

Baisley argued that Camacho invalidated the term "or leased" in the statute as applied by "requiring ownership in all cases, either actual ownership, or constructive ownership accomplished by entering into a lease agreement of sufficient duration."

In dismissing the appeal, the justices said they find no merit to the government's argument.

The justices said Camacho did not hold Section 7406(a)(2) unconstitutional when applied to Sablan's situation.

Section 7406(a)(2) defines government vehicle as a "vehicle owned or leased by the Commonwealth government or any of its branches or political subdivisions."

The justices said Camacho merely engaged in a statutory interpretation to determine whether Sablan's conduct violated the statutes.

In so doing, the justices said, Camacho evaluated whether the vehicle in question was "owned or leased" by the government by construing "owned or leased" pursuant to the Vehicle Code.

The justices said because Camacho did not invalidate Section 7406(2), but merely clarified the term owned or leased, the government had no right to appeal the judgment.

The justices, however, stated that they do not decide whether Camacho did or did not accurately interpret Section 7406(a)(2).

Sablan requested the high court to impose sanctions under the NMI Supreme Court Rule 38 because the appeal is frivolous. Under Rule 38, the high court may award damages including attorney fees and single or double costs to an appellee if they find an appeal frivolous.

The justices said they are not persuaded Rule 38 sanction is appropriate.

The justice said the government's appeal was to challenge Camacho's ruling on a question of law; it was not to reverse a finding of not guilty.

Accordingly, the justices said, Sablan had no personal stake in the appeal—no actual or threat of injury—and had no burden to defend it.

"Therefore, to the extent Sablan incurred costs in defending the appeal, those costs are hers to bear," the justices said.

The justices said Sablan's costs could have been prevented had she given the Commonwealth an opportunity to identify the nature of the appeal in its docketing statement before moving to dismiss the appeal.

Nevertheless, the justices said, they found the appeal frivolous, and concluded that some degree of sanction is warranted. By failing to properly specify the matter for appeal, the Commonwealth unnecessarily muddied the waters, the justices said.

Thus, the justices said, Sablan's confusion and response in the face of the Commonwealth's action is reasonable.

Accordingly, the justices said, though Rule 38 sanction is not warranted as a matter of law, they invoke their inherent authority as an alternate ground to impose monetary sanctions against the Commonwealth for filing a frivolous appeal and deficient notice of appeal.

The prosecution alleged that the lease of the car began Jan. 1, 2014, and Sablan was stopped by a police sergeant on Navy Hill on Jan. 15, 2015, so the government is legally the owner of the vehicle.

Then-assistant attorney general Emily Cohen prosecuted the case.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

WAP program now accepting applicants

The Department of Public Works' Energy Division, Weatherization Assistance Program for low income residents on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is now accepting applications on a first come, first serve basis. Individuals wishing to avail of this program may obtain an application for service at the Energy Division on Capitol Hill building No. 1337 on Saipan. For Tinian and Rota, applicants can pick up applications at the Tinian or Rota Mayor's Office or you may download applications from our website at www.cnmienergy.com. If you have any questions regarding this program, do not hesitate to contact program manager Christine Babaut or Eugene C. Borja, auditor, at 664-4481; Monday through Friday, except holidays, from 7:30am to 11:30am and from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. ***(PR)***

Air force training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Oct. 24-28 from 8am to 8pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the date and times indicated.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00»N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. ***(PR)***

NOTICE OF MEETING

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Friday, October 28, 2016
Time: 9:00a.m
Place: BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

I. Call Meeting to Order
- a. Roll Call
- b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
  1. September 27, 2016 - Regular meeting
  1. September 30, 2016 - Special meeting

II. Public Comment Period: Individuals may orally testify on items on the agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes.

III. Reports and Action from Standing Committees
- a. Fiscal and Finance Committee Report
- b. Program Committee Report
- c. Personnel Committee Report
- d. Audit Committee Report
- e. Nominating Committee Report

IV. Old Business
- a. FY2017 OPS Budget
- b. Draft Revision of Policy 6000: Compensation and Classification
- c. Draft Revision of Policy 1017: Conflict of Interest

V. New Business
- a. Election of Officers
- b. Board Resolution No. 2016-05: Update Bank Signatures
- c. President's Evaluation
- d. Board Policy No. 1005 – Standing Committees of the Board

VI. NMC Executive Reports
- a. President's Report
- 1. WASC Accreditation update

VII. Legislative Updates

VIII. Board Meeting Assessment

IX. Miscellaneous Items

X. Executive Session (At any time during the scheduled meeting of the Board of Regents may be required to enter into executive session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential)
- a. Legal Matters
- b. Personnel Matters

XI. Upcoming Board Activities
- a. Upcoming Events / Activities

XII. Adjournment

/s/ Elaine Hocog Orilla Date: October 28, 2016
Acting BOR Chairperson

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Personnel Committee will hold a meeting on **Thursday, October 27, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.** The Operations Committee will also hold a special meeting on the same day, at **1:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered and public attendance is welcome.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
AGENDA*

I. Preliminary Matters
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments**
III. Executive Session***
(Discuss and confer with the Legal Counsel on Personnel Matters)
IV. Adjournment

SPECIAL MEETING - OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
AGENDA*

V. Preliminary Matters
- D. Call to Order
- E. Roll Call
- F. Adoption of Agenda

VI. Public Comments**
VII. Executive Session***
(Discuss and confer with the Legal Counsel on Operations Matters)
VIII. Adjournment

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Agenda may be modified during the meeting.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.
*** Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Committee members may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
PO Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952
Phone (670) 433-2200 • Fax (670) 433-1819
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
October 22, 2016

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS[1]

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION[2]

IV. NEW BUSINESS
1. Hearing for letter of appeal

V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER

VI. SCHEDULE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

VII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/ Antonio L. Borja
Chairman

[1] We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
[3] Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

CNMI govt pays $101,638 to Radich's two lawyers

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI government has already paid $101,638 to U.S. Navy veteran David J. Radich and his wife, Li-Rong, to pay for their two lawyers' fees and expenses for prevailing in a lawsuit that challenged the constitutionality of the CNMI gun control law.

Daniel Guidotti, one of the two lawyers for the Radich couple, filed on Friday before the U.S. District Court for the NMI a notice of the CNMI government's payment.

Guidotti said their law office, Marianas Pacific Law, received from the CNMI government a check in the amount of $101,638.

Guidotti said this payment is the entire amount due pursuant to the court's fee order.

Last Sept. 20, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted the request of the Radich couple for payment to their two lawyers of attorney's fees and expenses.

Manglona awarded the Radich couple a total of $101,638.62 in attorney's fees and court costs, instead of the requested $103,913.83.

Manglona awarded the couple attorney's fees in the amount of $78,375 for attorney David G. Sigale's work and $15,120 for Daniel T. Guidotti's work, for a total of $93,495. The judge also awarded costs in the amount of $8,143.62.

The Radiches' request is for $80,325 in attorney's fees for Sigale and $15,347.50 for Guidotti, and $8,241.33 in costs.

Manglona said Police Commissioner Robert Guerrero and Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson shall pay the fees and costs awarded in this case within 30 days.

Manglona said it is undisputed that the Radiches are the prevailing party in this case.

To encourage private citizens to bring actions for injunctive relief that advance the public interest in vindicating civil rights, "the prevailing plaintiff should ordinarily recover an attorney's fee unless special circumstances would render such an award unjust."

Manglona ruled that the handgun and handgun ammunition and their import ban contained in the provisions of the CNMI Weapons Control Act are unconstitutional and in violation of the Covenant that incorporated the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Radich couple sued then-DPS commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero and Larson. The couple challenged the constitutionality of the CNMI Weapons Control Act that prohibits residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes.

Flag waving supports anti-drug awareness campaign

By MICHAEL T. SANTOS
michaeljan.t.santos@gmail.com
REPORTER

A flag waving activity was held along Beach Road last Thursday in support of the anti-drug movement in the CNMI. Schools, agencies, and the Department of Public Safety took part in the event.

"We're so proud to see our young people and children out here with their family members to support the Red Ribbon Campaign during the month of October—a month of commemorating the red ribbon which symbolizes being drug-free," said Alicia Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

"We have a campaign committee that consists of government agencies, non-profit organizations in our private sector, and we've been going out to our schools, public and private, here in the CNMI to talk to kids about the history of the campaign, about DEA special agent Kiki Camarena who dedicated his life to fighting drug trafficking, and how his legacy continues through other outreach programs," said Limtiaco.

The Red Ribbon Campaign honors the memory of DEA agent Enrique "Kiki" S. Camarena, who was kidnaped, tortured, and murdered by drug traffickers in California.

Limtiaco herself recognized Francis Pangelinan from San Vicente School for his dedication to the Red Ribbon Campaign. Pangelinan is a fourth grade teacher who has worked tirelessly to band the students, parents, and faculty staff of his school.

"Right now, with the current rise of drug problems in our community, everyday you open the newspaper and hear something about drugs. The best way for me to avoid stuff like that is to teach kids at a young age the effects of drugs in our community and I'm pretty sure some of them [kids] have seen effects on a daily basis or in the past. What motivates me is to let them know that despite being exposed to drugs so early in their lives, they don't have to continue down this path."

Customs officer Ryan B. Kikko said, "We always try to stop illegal drugs from coming in and stuff like that so right now we're just trying to show the rest of the island that we also support drug awareness activities such as this."

According to Kikko, DPS received word that the flag waving was going to take place and they took it upon themselves to rally up their officers and participate.

A wave of people in red extends down Beach Road on Oct. 20, 2016, in support of drug awareness in the community.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

DAY OF UNITY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016 | 1PM-7PM | FILCOM PAVILION, SUSUPE

1:00PM-5:00PM
DANCE & MUSIC PERFORMANCES, FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

5:00PM-6:00PM
MEN'S WALK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

6:00PM-7:00PM
CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

FREE #DVAM2016 T-SHIRTS & RAFFLE PRIZES*

For more information, call 234-3878 or 664-4582/4. For the latest news and updates, follow NMCADSV on Facebook, Twitter (@EndViolenceNMI) and Instagram (@nmcadsv).
*While supplies last

Paseo and Garapan improvements underway

Improvements to Paseo de Marianas and other sections of Garapan continue to move forward, with the Marianas Visitors Authority now working with an architectural firm to produce construction documents for the pedestrian mall.

The MVA is reviewing architecture, engineering, and landscaping plans under a draft that will include an outdoor stage, new roofs for shaded seating, and street light fixtures for the site.

"Based on our initial conceptual drawing, we are now reviewing 50 percent design plans for [Paseo] with the architect, and we are looking forward to the completion of plans so we can then advertise for a construction contractor," said MVA product development manager Tatiana Babauta, who oversees destination enhancement projects.

Upgrades to PDM will also include uplighting of trees, new signage, and other changes that will enhance the attractiveness and functionality of the pedestrian mall.

Meanwhile, landscaping in downtown Garapan is also being upgraded. Trees destroyed by Typhoon Soudelor and other causes on Coral Tree Ave. in front of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and Hyatt Regency Saipan have been replaced by new Pink Tacomah or ylang-ylang trees. The two northernmost traffic medians on Beach Rd. in Garapan have also been re-landscaped.

"We're very excited about all the ongoing projects on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, and our travel partners have expressed it's making the experience more enjoyable for our visitors, especially projects like the Beach Rd. Pathway relighting and renovation of the bathrooms and trash collection in Marpi," said Babauta. "These projects benefit visitors and residents alike, and we welcome any community member with questions or suggestions to participate by contacting our Destination Enhancement Committee."

The MVA has also recently contracted a trash collection company to conduct daily trash collection and street sweeping in downtown Garapan. ***(MVA)***

Kaipat is found mentally incompetent

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has found habitual offender Cling Philip Kaipat to be mentally incompetent to understand court proceedings.

Kaipat is facing charges in federal court for possession of a gun and ammunition that he stole from the house of Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Manglona issued the finding after reviewing all the evidence and hearing all the arguments of the parties' counsel.

Manglona committed Kaipat to the custody of the attorney general where he shall be hospitalized for treatment not to exceed four months.

The judge said it is necessary to determine whether there is a substantial probability that in the future that Kaipat will attain the capacity to permit the proceedings to go forward, and for an additional period of time until his mental is so improved that trial may proceed.

Last Feb. 23, the U.S. government filed a motion for a psychiatric examination to determine Kaipat's competency.

Last March 9, the court granted the motion and issued an order for psychiatric or psychological examination of Kaipat.

Kaipat was then remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service and transferred to the Federal Detention Center in Seatac, Washington to determine his mental competency.

Last July 5, the court received a forensic evaluation of Kaipat.

After a series of continuances, the competency hearing was eventually heard last Oct. 14. Assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing appeared for the government. Kaipat appeared with court-appointed counsel Colin Thompson.

Lorfing called three witnesses: two Department of Corrections officers and examining forensic psychologist Dr. Ryan Nybo.

The two DOC officers testified about their observations of Kaipat before he was sent off-island for his examination, which was from November 2015 to early May 2016.

The DOC officers noted the drastic change in Kaipat from being able to communicate coherently with them and interact with the other inmates, to becoming reclusive and rejecting any food, medicine, and water.

Nybo listened to the two DOC officers' testimonies via telephone.

Manglona said based on all the evidence presented, Nybo could not render an opinion that Kaipat was competent.

Manglona said this was contrary to Nybo's prior conclusion that Kaipat "demonstrated sufficient ability to understand the nature and consequences of the court proceedings against him, and a sufficient ability to properly assist counsel in his defense" as was detailed in his report dated June 27, 2016.

In his report, Nybo stated that, "given the defendant's history of psychosis and associated disorganized and erratic behavior, it is imperative he remain on antipsychotic medication to ensure his current level of stability."

Unfortunately, Manglona said, the clear and convincing evidence received at the hearing indicate that since his return to the island, Kaipat has not been taking his medications which has resulted in him exhibiting erratic behavior.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the U.S. government recommended and counsel for defendant concurred that the evidence supports a finding that the defendant is not legally competent.

The indictment charged the 19-year-old Kaipat in federal court with possession of a stolen firearm and possession of ammunition. Kaipat also allegedly possessed a stolen hollow point 9mm round of ammunition.

Kaipat was also charged in local court with burglary, theft, and criminal mischief over the break-in at Govendo's house.

Govendo was off-island when the burglary happened.

Detectives recovered the judge's police-issued 9mm pistol.

House passes legislation including extension of absentee ballots deadline

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed several bills including one that would extend the deadline for absentee ballots for the Nov. 8 general elections. All 19 members voted in the affirmative to pass House Bills 19-158, 191, 199, 203, and 204 during Friday's session.

HB 19-204 aims to suspend 1 CMC 6213, which states that all absentee ballots must be received on or before the day of the election. All absentee ballots are in danger of not being counted on Nov. 8 after the Commonwealth Election Commission just sent all 1,564 last week. Rep. Felicidad T. Ogumoro (R-Saipan) introduced HB 19-204.

These ballots could have an affect on the results of the election, especially in precincts where seats are tightly contested. The extension became necessary as there won't be enough time for the absentee voter to receive the ballot and send it back to the CNMI.

The bill moves to the Senate and if they would act on it, without amendments, would be transmitted to the governor for signing. HB 19-204 would allow all absentee ballots received to be counted on Nov. 18.

The CEC, last week, said they would need $98,000 to send all absentee ballots by express mail to make it just in time for Nov. 8. They ordered 21,000 ballots with 1,564 for absentee voters. The CNMI has 17,000 registered voters.

The House also passed HB 19-203 that would reform drug-sentencing laws for the rehabilitation and treatment principles of evidence-based sentencing. The act is also called the Drug Court Sentencing Reform Act. House speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) introduced HB 19-203

The Legislature, after the bill creating the drug court in the CNMI became law, has been committed to establish sentencing laws that would incorporate evidence-based programs and services like treatment and supervision.

House majority leader Rep. George N. Camacho (R-Saipan) introduced HB 19-199 that would amend 3CMC 5451 (b) of lifesaving devices. The bill hopes to address the issue of boating-related deaths due to drowning after victims failed to wear life jackets.

HB 19-158 is the Land Compensation Act of 2016 that would compensate private landowners whose properties were taken for public purposes and court judgment. Rep. Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan) is the bill's author.

Rep. Francis S. Taimanao (Ind-Saipan) authored HB 19-191, an act that would establish provisions and penalties for jaywalking.

Great success for Oleai Elementary School

The WPR Primary Grades Forensic Conference held its first competition this October at Francisco Mendiola Middle School. Hundreds of students joined this competition.

The principal of Oleai Elementary School, on behalf of its coordinator, Ernestina Agulto and coach/PGFC registrar J. Kristine Wolf, wish to congratulate their students for their hard work and success in this first PGFC meet.

Bottom, Glenn Ruben, Eithan Federizo, and Sandra Chargualaf. Second row, Alexis Salundaguit, Mary Gatmaitan, Hunter DelaCruz, Devon Leon Guerrero, Krislaine Cabanas, Charmaine Bautista, and Jose Iguel. Third row, Daviann Sablan, Jashly Abiera, Amanda Cervantes, Kenjie Escober, Latisha DeJesus, MerryAnn Viesca, and Darl Banzuela. Fourth row, OES PGFC coordinator Ernestina Agulto, Lars Wolf, SeoHyun Gabby Kim, Princess Miguel, Tinalyn Litulumar, Oceana Teigita, Issa Teigita, Genelyn Lansangan, and Jane Mozunder

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

K-2 DIVISION:

1st Place-Hunter Dela Cruz-Impromptu Speaking
1st Place-Glenn Ruben- CCLHS
1st Place-Krislaine Cabanas-Readers Forum Masters
2nd Place-Mary Gatmaitan-Readers Forum
2nd Place-Joe Iguel-CCLHS
3rd Place-Hunter Dela Cruz-Readers Forum
3rd Place-Ethan Federizo-Readers Forum Masters
3rd Place-Ruth Bautista-Humorous Interpretation
3rd Place-Krislaine Cabanas, CCLHS
4th Place-Devon Leon Guerrero-Readers Forum
4th Place-Alexis Salandaguit-Dramatic Interpretation
5th Place-Sandra Chargulauf-CCLHS

3-5 DIVISION:

1st Place-Lars Wolf-Readers Forum Masters
1st Place-Darl Banzuela-Readers Forum
1st Place-Issa Teigita, CCLHS
1st Place-Oceana Teigita, CCLHS
1st Place-Darl Banzuela-Readers Forum
2nd Place-Latisha De Jesus-Readers Forum
2nd Place-Gabrielle Kim-Readers Forum Masters
2nd Place-Tinalyn Litulumar-CCLHS
3rd Place-Amanda Cervantes, Dramatic Interpretation
3rd Place-Daviann Sablan-Readers Forum
3rd Place-Tinalyn Litulumar-Readers Forum Masters
3rd Place-Jane Mozunder-Readers Forum Masters
4th Place-Kenjie Escober-Readers Forum
4th Place-Merry Ann Viesca-Readers Forum Masters
4th Place-Princess Miguel-Readers Forum
4th Place-Oceana Teigita-Impromptu Speaking
5th Place-Jashly Abiera-Impromptu Speaking and Readers Forum ***(PR)***

MYPros to host senatorial debate on Oct. 26

Following the success of the Precinct 3 Candidates Forum, the Marianas Young Professionals, or MYPros, is hosting the second of two candidate forums with the senatorial debate tomorrow, Oct. 26, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

With only two weeks to go until voters hit the polls, the public is again invited to this free, moderated forum. Doors will open at 4pm with the forum to begin promptly at 5:30pm. You do not have to be a MYPros member to participate. All are welcome.

The two candidates, incumbent senator Sixto Kaipat Igisomar (Republican) and former senator Ray Naraja Yumul (Independent), have been invited and have agreed to participate in this week's senatorial debate.

"The purpose of this debate," said Nola K. Hix, event organizer and MYPros vice president, "is to give the senatorial candidates an opportunity to have an open dialogue in a neutral setting. It is also an opportunity for us to hear their responses to the issues that matter most."

Local lawyer Tiberius Mocanu, will be the moderator once again for this event along with MYPros member Gerard Van Gils.

Van Gils is a teacher at Kagman High School who has taught social studies and Career and Technical Education. As a teacher, Van Gils has initiated the Mentor for a Meal program as well as the highly successful Million Dollar Scholars Club where six of his students were awarded the Gates Millennium Scholarship. He graduated from the University of Utah with a bachelor's in political science and afterward regularly volunteered with the Utah State Legislature. Van Gils is also the recipient of the 2016 MYPros Young Professional of the Year award where he was recognized for his selfless advocacy in and beyond his classroom.

Precinct 3 candidates lined up during the Candidate Forum hosted by MYPros. From left, Rep. Edmund Villagomez, Francisco Dela Cruz, Rep. Ralph Yumul, Vicente Camacho, Rep. Blas Jonathan BJ Attao, Ivan Blanco, Donald Barcinas, and Jose Itibus. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Moderators will ask each candidate the same opening questions, which have been submitted in advance by the MYPros membership, followed by a series of questions.

"It's important for people to hear the candidates, just as it is important for them to hear the people," said Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu, MYPros director. "We want to ensure that everyone has every opportunity to make an informed choice on election day."

The public is also invited to the "Meet the Candidates" after-party fundraiser at Naked Fish following the forums. Admission is $10 and includes a free drink with *pupus* while supplies last. Tickets will be available for purchase at the forum. Proceeds raised will fund community projects and educational programming spearheaded by the MYPros Community Projects Committee.

Marianas Young Professionals is a non-profit organization whose mission is to connect passionate young professionals with opportunities for social and professional growth and civic engagement for the benefit of the commonwealth. If you have questions or would like submit questions for the upcoming forum, email mypros.670@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Make-A-Wish party: Black ties and zories!

Join the Make-A-Wish team, donors/sponsors, and other supportive guests on Nov. 10, 6pm, for the 4th Annual CNMI Wish Night! This year's event will be a benefit dinner at SandCastle and is themed, black ties and zories!

Completing evening attire with zories pays homage to our wish children who walk daily in adult situations. It is also a symbolic gesture to wish kids and their families that says, "We walk alongside you in your journey, and we are all committed to making wishes come true right here in the CNMI!"

We look forward to this evening of dinner, drinks, raffles, silent auction, and dancing... not to mention what zories will flip-flop through the doors! So please mark your calendars, spread the word, and join us! Tickets are $100 each, available now at Hyatt Regency Saipan, Naked Fish Bar & Grill and Gold's Gym Saipan. Call (670) 285-1168 for more information.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. For more information, visit guam.wish.org. ***(PR)***

$2 Admission Fee
BEYOND THE GRAVE
OCT. 30TH & 31ST 7PM
Chalan Piao, Across Hopwood Soccer Field
Contact: 287-5665
DISCLAIMER: ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK!

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone Nos. (670) 664-3196 Fax phone No. (670) 664-3197

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

THE CNMI DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY ISSUES THE FOLLOWING

MORATORIUM NOTICE
on

N.M.I. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 80 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SUB-CHAPTER 80-20.1 EMPLOYMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS § 80-20.1-210 (C) (3) Exemptions from Workforce Participation § 80-20.1-215 (b) Particular Construction Project. Exemptions issued prior to this notice remains in effect until their expiration date.

This moratorium notice shall be in effect until such time that the CNMI Secretary of Labor publishes a new notice on this matter.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Afghanistan adrift: The Taliban is testing the nation's military

Afghanistan government military and police forces trained and equipped by the United States are finding themselves increasingly challenged by the Taliban outside the capital, Kabul.

The Obama administration's theory in Afghanistan and Iraq is that their militaries' forces can be strengthened to the point that U.S. forces can be withdrawn without their governments being overrun by their enemies. In the case of Afghanistan, it's the Taliban; in Iraq, the Islamic State.

In Iraq the theory is being tested by the campaign to retake Mosul, the country's second-largest city, by a force that includes Iraqi government forces, Kurdish fighters and Shiite militias supported by Iranians. The assault, supported by U.S. air and ground forces, began on Monday.

In Afghanistan, the Taliban, the persistent enemy of the Kabul government of President Ashraf Ghani, is carrying out a wide campaign of attacks on government-held centers outside the capital, in 14 of 34 provinces in the north, west and south of the country. Kunduz in the north is under siege, and severe attacks have occurred in Farah province in the west and in Lashkar Gah, the capital of Helmand province in the south. A massacre of more than a hundred Afghan soldiers who thought they were being allowed by the Taliban to escape Lashkar Gah occurred Oct. 11.

Some 4,500 Afghan soldiers were killed between March and August with some 900 having died in August alone. The casualties and a high level of corruption in the Afghan military and police have lessened recruitment to replace those lost and prompted desertions. Discord within the leadership of the Afghan government, between Ghani and his supposed partner, Abdullah Abdullah, doesn't help.

The United States is still carrying out air and drone strikes against the Taliban, but it would not be realistic to believe that they can compensate entirely for the difficulties Afghanistan's own military and police are experiencing as they try to hold ground against the Taliban.

It would not be unimaginable that the Taliban will be successful in resuming the rule in the country that they abandoned in the face of U.S. post-9/11 warfare there in 2001. If that occurs, Washington should cease trying to prevent the inevitable and just keep close track of any anti-U.S. actions being mounted there, through satellite and other intelligence oversight measures.

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Political correctness can get pretty scary

By CYNTHIA M. ALLEN
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. *Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.*

I have never been a huge fan of Halloween.

There already are plenty of things in everyday life I find terrifying—this election cycle included.

I never understood the need to celebrate a day that imagines more things for us to fear.

But I've never had a problem with those who embrace the holiday.

Indeed, for adults, Halloween has always been the one opportunity each year when it's acceptable to pretend to be something we're not; to wear something scary, inappropriate or ridiculous in public with impunity; or to dress our children in something funny or cute.

Still, every year there is some outcry over the irreverence of costume choices.

And every year the complaints become a little more absurd.

The latest outrage is over a costume depicting Maui, a Polynesian character in an upcoming Disney animated film.

Maui is a revered figure for some Pacific Islanders, and many believe him to be their ancestor.

Presumably, the Disney film (scheduled to be released next month) handles Maui in a culturally respectful way.

As such, one might assume that donning the costume is homage to the Polynesian culture—or at least a fun way to enjoy a new Disney character.

Apparently not.

Quite predictably, a social media storm erupted over the Maui getup.

One activist explained that it is off-putting to have a child wear the skin of another race.

OK.

But the Maui costume is hardly blackface, especially when worn by a child who probably just wants to emulate the character—and in a good way.

Disney pulled the costume from the shelves after claims that it was offensive to Pacific Islanders became too many to ignore, which is no surprise considering what generally happens to people who rationally suggest that costumes, on both children and adults, might be a worthy form of self-expression.

That was part of the argument made last fall by Erika Christakis, an educator and wife of a Yale University administrator, in response to heavy-handed university advice about Halloween-wear.

In an email to students, Christakis wondered, "Is there no room anymore for a child or young person to be a little bit obnoxious ... a little bit inappropriate or provocative or, yes, offensive?"

She further argued that the school's costume guidelines exhibited a lack of faith in students' ability to exercise their own judgment of what is and isn't appropriate and how to reasonably approach situations in which they might find a peer's choice of dress offensive.

"In other words," her email concluded, "Whose business is it to control the forms of costumes of young people?"

It would appear that it is the business of a very vocal minority of social justice warriors.

As a result of the furor caused by Christakis' email—including a heated and profanity-laced confrontation in the quad—she resigned her position as a lecturer at the school, and her husband resigned his administrative role.

The political correctness police are not active only on Ivy League campuses.

This year, a Florida State University dormitory displayed posters that showed "examples of appropriation" and included suggestions for "great Halloween costumes" including "extraterrestrial alien," "Steve Jobs" and "any animal"—except Harambe, the gorilla killed this year in an effort to protect a small child who fell into his enclosure at the Cincinnati Zoo.

Harambe, the poster said, for reasons of sexism and racism that still boggle the mind, was an inappropriate choice.

The posters were part of the "We're a Culture, Not a Costume" campaign that has been sweeping campuses.

While it might to be fair to question the judgment of some college students given the appalling amount of binge drinking and promiscuous sex that occurs on campus, a national campaign designed to steer their Halloween dress choices seems just a tad condescending.

But perhaps even more insulting is the service offered by another Florida school to students who find themselves traumatized by the costumes of their peers.

The University of Florida is advertising that it has made avail-

See POLITICAL on Next Page

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Delay passage of minimum wage bill'

The Honorable Rafel S. Demapan, Speaker:
House of Representatives
19th Commonwealth Legislature

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify against the proposed House Bill 19-23, SD1, SD2, to increase the CNMI minimum wage to $7.25 per hour, which will take effect 90 days after becoming law.

I am very disappointed that the current administration is moving rapidly to fast track the CNMI minimum wage from the present $6.55 per hour to $7.25 per hour to please the federal government without any public hearings or to hear voices of our people.

I understand that the House passed H.B. 19-23 on Oct. 27, 2015, which will increase the CNMI minimum wage to match the federal minimum age applicable in the Commonwealth. The present federal wage is $6.55 per hour. This House bill will take effect 180 days upon becoming a law.

The Senate based their decision because the Saipan Chamber of Commerce supports this bill. As my good friend Francis said, "So if the Chamber agrees to the increase, let them pay their employees as high as they want to, but do not make it a law for businesses that will be severely affected."

I am one of those local businesses that will be affected. Herman's Modern Bakery has been in business for 71 years. It is a family-owned business that provides high quality fresh baked products and catering services to the Public School System, Office of Aging and we also provide baked goods to the marine prepositioned ships that you see outside the Saipan lagoon. Our present labor force is 122 employees in which 55 percent of them are local workers.

Our company, like other local businesses, is facing major challenges such as the CW-1 cap, alternate U.S. visa issue, recent typhoon recovery, increased gas costs and other expenses. We are faced today with a huge challenge that the CW-1 cap left is at 296; unfortunately, this does not give us the time to renew our bakers which are the key staff with our business. This only means that we'll have to look at another alternative to keep them here while we are going to due process for next year's cap. Bottom line, this only means additional cost that we have to spend in order to maintain their status here at home.

The rationale of putting more money into the pockets of our consumers right before the election is misguided. With the passage of the proposed bill, the cost of living will increase. That money supposedly going into the consumers' pocket will be flying out to keep up with the increased cost of living.

We support pay increase for our workers and in fact we are paying higher salary to some of our employees. Our company will survive the immediate pay increase to $7.25 per hour but at a high price and we have to seriously assess how to streamline our operations in order to fulfill our contracts. One option is to decrease our workforce, including the employment of our local people.

I am humbly requesting you and the honorable members of the House, the Senate and the governor to seriously consider the grave consequences of this legislation. It will bring additional revenue for our government but it will close doors for small businesses. Please delay passage and allow the voice of the people to be heard so that we all can come to a favorable formula. Now is not the time to immediately increase the minimum wage. 2015 was a year from Typhoon Soudelor. I pray that 2016 will not be a disaster to small businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed legislation.

Anna Guerrero Hayes
General manager
Herman's Modern Bakery

None of the above

Next month, the U.S. will decide who the next president will be, but the choice will be tough as neither candidate really fits the bill, both plagued by scandals and while Clinton compromised her integrity in the now infamous email scandal, Trump simply lacks any integrity whatsoever. There should be an option on the ballots for the voters to check, "None of the above."

We, too, will be heading to the polls next month and hopefully only those who can and are willing to address our Commonwealth's many problems will get elected. Forget party politics for once and it should not matter if one belongs to the majority or minority, those elected into office serve the public.

This year, time is of the essence as our workforce issue is becoming a major nightmare for all of us. Take a look at what can happen if no permanent solution is achieved with respect to our CWs:

First, we need to know how many CW workers and their dependents are here. Compare that to the number of people who will be left behind after 2019.

Any drastic reduction in the number of CW workers who fill the long list of work categories in both government and private sector will have immediate and very long term negative effects on us, our economy and our government. Their departure will diminish the number of taxpayers, shoppers, CUC, CHC and service industry customers, resulting in budget deficits, business closures, employees downsizing, etc.

Locals will lose their jobs and because there will be fewer customers, the cost of merchandise will skyrocket to cover diminishing customer base. Their incomes will be reduced but will have to pay more for their needs. Just think about how many businesses are owned and operated by non-locals. Even those with EB visas may close.

Our government, faced with a huge revenue decline, will face possible shutdowns, merging of duplications, realignments, and maybe even bankruptcy. Retirees not on Social Security as well as laid-off government and private sector employees will be left in the dust dealing with poverty, bankruptcies and foreclosures.

No worry, Best Sunshine is here. Really? Do we honestly believe that BSI will hang around even if it is unable to find all the employees it needs for all of its operations in its planned hotel and casino? Ask them where the line is, the Rule of 7, or maybe 14, the point that determines when they will leave for better opportunities with all the right factors in place.

We do have a tendency to forget the bad years in our short history. The garment industry and the Tinian Dynasty epitomize the highs, and their closures the lows. But there's a problems looming in the horizon should we fail again. And it will be far worse than we have ever experienced or can ever imagine. I cannot say prepare yourselves if you're living paycheck to paycheck. That one requires a "good luck!"

So, next month, choose your candidate wisely. Reason it out. Why that candidate? What are their experiences and overall background? How business savvy? Rational and logical when explaining things? Sensible? Voting straight down the line is no longer kosher. Why vote for that candidate? Make your votes count. The 20th Legislature, Delegate Kilili, and others will determine our legacy to pass on to the next generations. Forget today, think about your kids' future and their kids' future. The election ballot should have a check box with "None of the above" on it. *I famaguon. Man sinsasaga sa ti nahung i sueddo para guma. Man e'e'insinayau. Tisiña man ayau gi banco par CDA sa makat. Ya pulan mauleg i* "Cultures and Traditions*" i Refaluasch yan i Chamorro.*

Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan, Saipan

Kudos to Rep. Tony Benavente

A representative who takes care of his people in the community deserves to be acknowledged and appreciated. Rep. Tony cares for the safety of our people. Many intersections in Garapan are blocked by overgrown grasses and trees; they area traffic hazard. Rep. Tony has been cleaning those area and I was wondering who are these people, are they from Parks and Recreation, Mayor's Office, etc. I found out that it was Rep. Tony who hired contractors to maintain the safety of our community.

We have five representatives in Precinct 3. How many of them are working for the community? Two years ago, I approached a career representative at Subway to check those Garapan students at the entrance of Sugar King Estate because they need a bus shelter. When it rains, the students get wet before going to school, up to now there is still no shelter. Because Rep. Tony is a doer, I approached him about this issue, and I'd like to see how fast he can make it happen.

Thank you for your attention.

Remi Sablan
Garapan, Saipan

LITERARY NOOK

Keats-inspired sonnets

By JOEY "PEPE BATON" CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

On Trumpty Dumpty and the Hill

the politics of dirty laundry seems to be never dead
when all huge missteps and mistakes are hung to dry
not hidden in political back rooms with hope they die
from network channels and social media to your head
Trumpty's campaign used dirty laundry trying to lead
throughout this past summer and he's not yet done
with his insults and lies that's the way its being run
begun with the wall ended August in Mexico yes indeed
politics of pandering, pivoting, and power ceases never
even the Big Fail of Hillary and her endless email tale
with the Republicans desire to keep it going on forever
so into the last months of the POTUS election they sail
and it seems to most folks and voters in the general public
something has gone horribly wrong in our great republic

John Keat's sonnet title (from 1816) 200 years ago: On The Grasshopper & Cricket.

Blue States and Red! White Stripes and Hypes

Blue states mostly on the East and West coast
wonder if a geopolitical proximity to salt water
changes a Republican son or a Democrat daughter
what's the difference between a red and blue boast
Red states are mostly in the middle of the country
the mighty Mississippi and wide Missouri rivers
provide drainage for many Red states down to the
the Gulf of Mexico where they roll and flow
Green states don't control any one state completely
Red and Blue states have multiple environmental concerns
unpolluted municipal water supplies begin to deplete
solar power rises there is an increase in wind turbines
all fifty states still have their boundaries but how great
will they be when Trumpty Dumpty changes their fate

Keats sonnet title: Blue! 'Tis The Life of Heaven, The Domain.

POLITICAL

From Page 10

able an around-the-clock hotline through which offended coeds can seek counseling services to help them deal with their costume-caused anguish.

The culture appropriation concerns extend beyond the campus bubble.

Several theme parks, including Six Flags New England, have altered or removed Halloween attractions that featured scary psychiatric patients because they offended people who suffer from mental illness.

And as one writer explained in the Huffington Post, the use of any cultural garb at all—a kimono, sari or mariachi suit—should be off-limits. These "are deeply respected items of clothing in their culture" and wearing them isn't appreciation but appropriation.

Forget ghouls, ghosts and zombies.

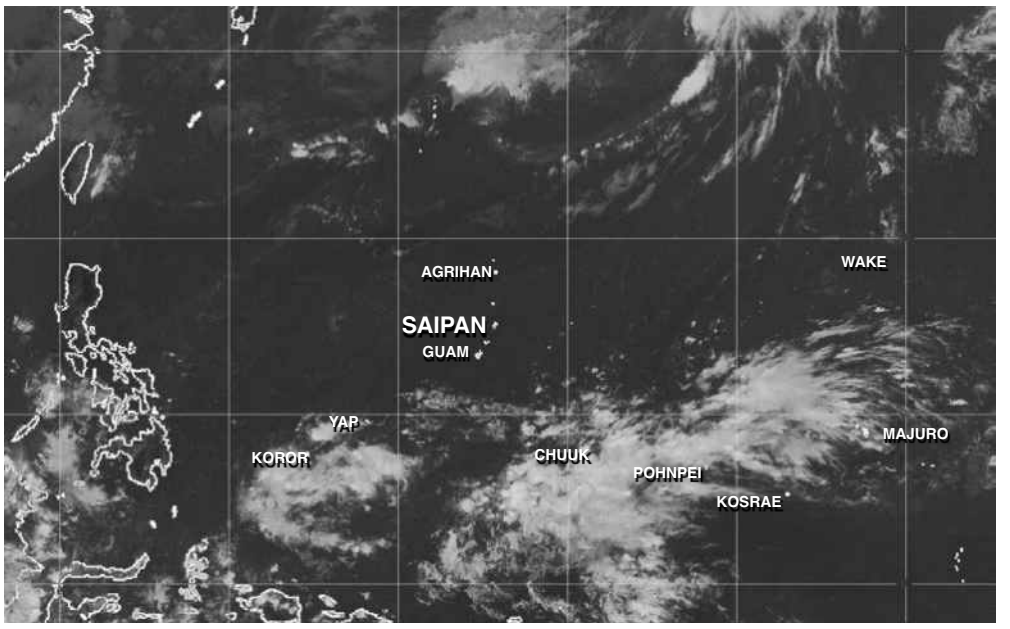
The thing to fear this Halloween isn't offending someone, but the whittling away at your right to self-expression.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:38 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2016
WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

Expect winds of around 10 to 15 mph today and tonight. A slight increase in the pressure gradient over the local area will cause a small rise in winds over the Marianas Tuesday and Wednesday. A dry season weather pattern will settle in through the week with only partly cloudy skies and isolated showers expected. Trade-wind convergence will bring in clouds and an increase chance of showers next weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Afternoon clouds	83 / 90 °F
Palau	Heavy rain	82 / 86 °F
Yap	Partly cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Partly sunny	78 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	77 / 86 °F
Kosrae	Morning clouds	78 / 87 °F
Majuro	Mostly cloudy	81 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Partly cloudy	58 / 64 °F
Beijing	Partly cloudy	34 / 62 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	78 / 85 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	72 / 81 °F
London	Cloudy	50 / 59 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	60 / 73 °F
Manila	Partly cloudy	78 / 91 °F
Melbourne	Mostly cloudy	49 / 71 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	73 / 81 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	43 / 53 °F
Osaka	Mostly cloudy	49 / 70 °F
Paris	Morning clouds	52 / 62 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	59 / 71 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	65 / 79 °F
Salem	High level clouds	50 / 62 °F
San Francisco	Cloudy	61 / 67 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	51 / 64 °F
Tokyo	Afternoon clouds	48 / 65 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	42 / 58 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
2:49 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.46 Feet
9:38 AM	LOW TIDE	0.24 Feet
4:36 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.84 Feet
10:53 PM	LOW TIDE	0.77 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Saturday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	1:33 AM	2:21 PM
Wednesday	2:24 AM	3:03 PM
Thursday	3:13 AM	3:43 PM
Friday	4:01 AM	4:21 PM
Saturday	4:48 AM	5:00 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

MCS' 1st Quarter President's List and honor roll

Mount Carmel School congratulates these students for making it to the 1st Quarter President's List and honor roll.

President's List: Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.

1st Grade
Camacho, Maiyah Michell
Demapan, Isabella Soledad
Doronila, Kevin Izrael
Ellama, John Matthew
Flores, Cassidy Jolina K.
Hwang, Katherine
Larson, Kayla
Maratita, Francisco
Melchor, Remiegem
Mitchell, Gabriel Seth
Palacios, Layla Carmen
Pangelinan, Cyril Michael
Quitugua, Aubrey Rae
Sablan-Wilson, Liam
Sablan, Nick Jesse
Santos Aya
Sheu, Julius
Tagabuel, Arstin Itibwu
Tenorio, Naysa Bliss
Villagomez, Cecilia Ramon

2nd Grade
Ano, Wayne Dominic
Calvo, Michael
Castro, Christine R.
Castro, Thunder Alik
Catacutan, Cedric Earl
Concepcion, Jeffrey G.
Esguerra, Maria Loreen
Gragasin, Justin Andrei
Jung, Maya Jae
Lansangan, Leah Michel
Matsumoto, Naomi Skye
McQuay, Hope
Melchor, Sarah Angela
Pangilinan, Nicole Angela
Propst, Kaden Christian
Reyes, Frank Anthony
Sasamoto, Enzo Umeki
Sasamoto, Hiromi Rosa
Tenorio, Jose Clarence
Torres, Jupri O.
Wesley, Aiden Manuel

3rd Grade
Atalig, Danika P.
Backe, Asa Vanessa
Bigalbal, Pauline Anne
Buenaflor, Oscar Bien
Camacho, Meagan Brylee
Cruzana, Joaquin Ian
Dela Santa, Heleyna
Deleon Guerrero, Nyla
Estella, Valerie Anne
Hayes, Alana
Javier, Lance Jericho
Lansangan, Lexi Marie
Maratita, Elise Divine
Mareham, Laura
Matsumoto, Ayanna Faith
Mendoza, Mikaehla Paige
Ogo, Therese Joy
Pangelinan, Camron Z.
Pangelinan, Mya
Pontiveros, Emmanauel
Tenorio, Jessiana B.
Travilla, Riana Joy

4th Grade
Cabrera, Margaret
Camacho, Irie
Castro, Elialyn Q.
Castro, Kenneth S.
Chae, Davina
Chang, Jada
Clark, Nathaniel
Duenas, Quimarie L.
Kautz, Claire Regina
Lobo, Angelo
Mallari, Audrein Jennifer
Nicholas, Jalen
Palacios, Tricia
Pamintuan, Manuel
Reyes, Chelsy Anne
Sablan, Aaliyah Victoria
Sablan, Kiana Cecilia
Santos, Dylan D.
Sasamoto, Hitomi Rosa
Steele, Lyssa Rae
Taimanao, Aryana Carmen
Taitano, Taylor Justine
Tenorio, Malina Rose
Toskas, Ari James
Travilla, Arturo Rodrigo

5th Grade
Bocago, Ranasia
Doronila, Kyle Jay
Gamab, Gwen Tiffany
Guerrero, Ruben
Propst, Devin Jordan
Sablan, Andrew
San Nicolas, Earle G.
Sulyman, Shamira
Torres, Aval Marie

6th Grade
Hong, Eun Kyu
Ortizo, Brent Matthew
Sasamoto, Yurihana Rosa

7th Grade
Aldave, Lynette
Alvarez, Robin
Ano, William
Bucalig, Fiona
Cruz, Larry Dean
Diaz, Jeremiah Jerome
Duenas, Monique Laura
Guerrero, Christian Felix
Mallari, Vaughn Andrei
Propst, Kiana Lei
Schweiger, Theresa Rose
Travilla Kaia

9th Grade
Borja, Kalea Lou
Santos-Yamagata, Danielle J.

10th Grade
Batusin, Aldwin Ray
Bobadilla, Jan Emmanuel
Castro, Rosa Engracia
Chinen, Quincy Mikaela
Cho, Hyo Lim
Han, Louisa Sa
Lee, Soe Yeon
Leong, Giselle Ivy
Moran, Matt Jason
Ramirez, Reica Jucel

11th Grade
Lim, Nathanael
Melchor, Jeff Matthew
Palacios, Michelle
Torres, Cassidy Victoria
Toskas, Jonelle Gwyneth
Usi, Monica Aira
Zheng, Theresa

12th Grade
Camacho, Keona
Castro, Jose Antonio
Chao, Shirley Minyi
Cushing, Arron
Deleon Guerrero, Zeno, Jr.
Doctor, Jaqueline
Han, Ya
Higuchi, Kai
Hunter, Brianna C.
Jun, You Jin
Lee, Eric
Ortizo, Michael Roy
Santos, Joshua
Snodgrass, Nathaniel

Honor roll: Students must have a GPA of 3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

1st Grade
Arriola, Janessa Francine T.
Borja, Richard Jr.
Cabrera, Kimason
Camacho, Gregory Manuel
Chen, Jessi
Deleon Guerrero, Kingston T.
Inos, Gabriella B.
Niric, Dylan
Remilloza, Andrea Fhe
Sablan, Christopher

2nd Grade
Camacho, Kesiil
Choi, Sia
Green-Petty, Payton
Guerrero, Patrick
Jin, Sarah
Lee, Jai
Lobo, Mikaela Jane
McQuay, Maya
Olopai, Jose Pedro
Sasamoto, Yukiko Kiyomi
Sulyman, Shaminur
Taisacan, Kandra Paige
Tomokane, Pedro Jose
Tudela, Elle B.
Villagomez, Sage Ramon

3rd Grade
Aldan II, Jesse John
Cabrera, Zion Jude
Han, Kern
Li, Min
Palacios, Leighton
Pangelinan, Joseph Brandon
Poon, Andrick
Rabauliman, Sophia M.
Reyes, Richard Zachary
Santaigo, Gavril Myles
Takanobu, Kiyoshi Rudy
Takeda, Ma. Natsuko
Tizon, Quince Emanuele
Tomokane, Peige Morgan

4th Grade
Gozon, Raphael Mykel
Lee, Jamie
Lee, Ru Ma
Mallari, Laizza Vianca
Mariano, Nicole Erin
Patawaran, Breana Y.
Saurus, Crispin-Joseph
Silva, Maui
Solis, Ranier Joy
Son, Jee Woo
Taisacan, Nevaeh

5th Grade
Ano, Natalie Gabrielle
Dayrit, Jenarisa Mae
Deleon Guerrero, Ierlyma
Reyes, Vicente
Takayama, Lezandra M.
Terlaje, Jared Joshua G.
Tolentino, Leyonne Alfred
Torres, Maria
Torres, Tiana

6th Grade
Albuen, Francine Monique
Cabrera, Kyla Monique
Dela Cruz, Kina
Galang, Raphael C.
Green, Lynzey Valencia
Hunter, Brissa C.
Kiser, Renee
Muna, Breanna
Pangelinan, Manuel Jacinto
Sablan, Matthew Adrian
Taitano, Tyler Vaughn

7th Grade
Bocago, Taliyah
Cho, Su Bin Novelene
Chong, Kevin Daisuke
Combinido, Jewel
Cruzana, Daphne
Kang, Jerica
Lacap, Hannah
Mendiola, Alleah Marie
Muna, Devon Tyler
Sablan, Vidal Jose
Sheu, Jeffrey
Solis, Raesyl Gerard
Steele, Richard Ramon
Tenorio, Joshua Donovan
Torres III, Vincent
Villar, Jedric Nathaniel

8th Grade
Avendano-Woodruff, Katherine
Hunter, Brandee C.
Kang, Kevin
Mendoza, Mikee Mame
Minami, William Kazuki
Sablan, Penelope
Salvador, Vince Philip
Sato, Maaya

9th Grade
Alcantara, Princess
Ham, Jim Michael

10th Grade
Acosta, Ydylle Faye
Aldan, Jaeleen Naomi
Attao, Allysa Marie
Camacho, Gary
Cunanan, Erika Gabrielle
Irang, Maverick Deniel
Kiser, Eric
Macaranas, Dayna Lou
Manese, Angelo Gabriel
Ocampo, Justin Gerald
Pangelinan, Rosalia Francine
Paraiso, Joanie
Sato, Karen
Tabora, Earl Daivick
Terlaje Maria Lael G.

11th Grade
Kim, Cosmos
Kim, Min Jung
Kim, Taeyeon
Mafnas, Shana Marie
Villacrusis, Geuel Christian
Yun, Seok Jun

12th Grade
Camacho, Eligiah
Kim, Myeong Je
Masga, John Diego
Reyes, Antonia S.
Reyes, Karleen Rita
Santos, Myles D.
Sasamoto, Shannon Rae
Travilla, Jan-Nasia
Xu, Xianodie (Rachel)

Dandan Middle School congratulates its thespians

Dandan Middle School wishes to congratulate its students who won at the Junior International Thespian Society competition in October: Jonathan Wolf, Donato Santiago, and Juliet Inocencio.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The first Junior International Thespian Society competition was held this October and Dandan Middle School wishes to congratulate its students—Jonathan Wolf and Juliet Inocencio, who won first place in duet acting, Donato Santiago, who won first place for solo musical, and Juliet Inocencio, who won second place in solo musical—for their job well done!

Both Wolf and Inocencio shared their encounter: "This was the first time for me to be slapped, ever!" exclaimed Wolf, when asked about his experience on this first meet, "but I felt it wasn't hard enough, though." (laughs) Inocencio said: "It was part of our piece.... I was nervous as well, but definitely in the next competition, we both will go over the top!"

Donato Santiago looks forward to singing his heart out once again come November's Thespian competition. ***(PR)***

MVA promotes NMI at Kedrovii Dom resort opening

The Marianas Visitors Authority and Mango Resort Saipan joined the grand opening of Kedrovii Dom (Cedar House) resort in Vladivostok, Russia, on Oct. 9, 2016, to increase awareness of the Northern Mariana Islands and encourage family travel to the islands.

Kedrovii Dom is a luxury, family-oriented entertainment center encompassing hotel accommodations, restaurants, and recreational facilities. Targeting families with children, the grand opening included approximately 20 other exhibitors, including children's entertainment companies, food courts, youth clubs, zoos, and other companies related to family pastimes. An estimated 1,000 people attended the event, where the MVA distributed printed material and answered questions at their exhibition stand.

Attendees of the grand opening of Kedrovii Dom resort in Vladivostok, Russia, join a photo contest at the Marianas Visitors Authority exhibition stand on Oct. 9, 2016, in hopes of winning a three-day stay at Mango Resort Saipan.
MVA

Attendees of the grand opening of Kedrovii Dom resort in Vladivostok, Russia, visit the Marianas Visitors Authority exhibition stand on Oct. 9, 2016.
MVA

Attendees of the grand opening of Kedrovii Dom resort in Vladivostok, Russia, join a photo contest at the Marianas Visitors Authority exhibition stand on Oct. 9, 2016. An estimated 1,000 people, predominantly families with children, attended the event.
MVA

"Guests showed very high interest in the Northern Marianas," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "That's good news, and the MVA will continue to maintain a presence in Russia as their economy stabilizes and outbound tourism hopefully improves."

At the NMI exhibition stand, guests of the event made origami airplanes that they could post on an interactive map of Saipan with fond wishes. A photo contest called "Wanna go to Mango Resort?" also encouraged event-goers to take a picture at the NMI exhibition stand and download the photo to an SNS with special hashtags #ILOVESAIPAN and "#хочувмangosaipan" (#wannagotomangosaipan). The selected winner of the contest received an MVA-branded giveaway kit and three-day accommodation provided by the Mango Resort Saipan, who joined the MVA at the event. ***(MVA)***

Paper airlines made by children and parents at the grand opening of Vedrovii Dom resort in Vladivostok, Russia, are displayed at the Marianas Visitors Authority exhibition stand on Oct. 9, 2016.
MVA

Business

A merged AT&T-Time Warner may not do consumers much good

NEW YORK (AP)—AT&T and Time Warner are playing up how their $85.4 billion merger will lead to innovative new experiences for customers. But analysts, public-interest groups and some politicians are far from convinced.

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said it should be killed. Tim Kaine, the Democratic vice presidential nominee, said less concentration in media "is generally helpful." And the Republican chairman and Democratic ranking member of the Senate's antitrust subcommittee said that the deal would "potentially raise significant antitrust issues."

The potential harm to consumers from this deal could be subtle—far more so than if AT&T were simply acquiring a direct competitor like a big wireless or home broadband company. Time Warner makes TV shows and movies; AT&T gets that video to customers' computers, phones and TVs. But the concern is that anything AT&T might do to make its broadband service stand out by tying it to Time Warner's programs and films could hurt consumers overall.

AP

In this Tuesday, May 26, 2015 file photo, pedestrians walk by an entrance to the Time Warner Center in New York.

WALLING OFF TIME

WARNER

The company certainly wants to do that. "With great content we believe you can build a truly differentiated service," said AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson. "In particular, mobile."

Here's how that would work. Because of Time Warner's world-famous shows and movies—"Game of Thrones," the "Harry Potter" films, professional basketball—and AT&T's ability to gather information about its tens of millions of customers, AT&T thinks it could do a better job tailoring ads and video to user preferences. It could then create more attractive subscription packages suited for phones, where people are increasingly watching video.

But many consumers already consider ads that know everything about them creepy or invasive, and digital-rights groups complain that any preferential deal AT&T could offer with, say, HBO would hurt competition.

Say AT&T reserved HBO for its customers only. That would cut HBO's reach and hurt its value.

IMF warns of slow growth in Central Asia, Caucasus

WASHINGTON (AP)—The International Monetary Fund warned Friday of weak growth prospects in Central Asia and the Caucasus and called for active reforms to energize the post-Soviet economies.

In a report, the 189-nation IMF forecast economic growth in the region in 2016 at just 1.3 percent, the lowest estimate since 1998.

The slowdown is mostly due to low commodity prices that are weighing down energy exporters Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Those economies are expected to grow at an overall rate of 1 percent. Weaker growth by key economic partners Russia and China is also a factor. Energy importers Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are expected to grow 3.7 percent, the same as last year.

Next year, regional growth is forecast at 2.6 percent.

While the IMF noted that the region is suffering from external factors that are outside its control, those trends have only increased the need for robust monetary, financial and structural reforms.

"Policymakers need to take important steps toward promoting strong and inclusive growth and job creation, much needed to preserve and improve living standards," said Juha Kahkonen, deputy director of the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department.

"The protracted nature of these shocks underlines the pressing need to diversify those economies away from their dependence on remittances and commodity exports, so they can more effectively cope with the kinds of economic challenges they're currently facing," Kahkonen said.

The fund urged regional governments to direct federal spending to education, training and health care in order to fuel economic growth. It also stressed the importance of good governance, accountably and property rights.

"The success of these measures will allow the region to enjoy more sustained and inclusive growth, which will improve living standards and lower poverty rates," Kahkonen said.

Earlier this month, global finance leaders complained that "growth has been too low for too long, benefiting too few," and warned that a backlash against globalization was on the rise.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

527 South Koreans to sue Samsung on Galaxy Note 7 recall

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Hundreds of South Korean Galaxy Note 7 smartphone owners plan to sue Samsung Electronics over the fire-prone device. Attorney Peter Young-Yeel Ko, head of the Harvest Law Firm said Monday that 527 consumers want Samsung to compensate them for the costs to visit shops to exchange their phones, for the hours they had to wait while transferring data and for psychological harm from using a hazardous product. His clients include a consumer who claims to have lost thousands of pictures from a family vacation and another who drove eight hours roundtrip to return the phone. Samsung recalled the Galaxy Note 7 phone because it tends to overheat. It recalled replacement Note 7s after finding they also were prone to catch fire, the company stopped making or selling them.

Average gasoline price down 4 cents to $2.25 a gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of gasoline in the U.S. has dropped four cents over the past two weeks to $2.25 for regular grade. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday it's the first time the price dropped in 11 weeks. Part of the reason is seasonally lower gasoline demand. The Lundberg Survey found the average price of midgrade gasoline was $2.54 a gallon while premium was $2.75. The highest average price for regular gas in the contiguous U.S. was $2.78 in San Francisco. The lowest was $1.95 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The average price for diesel was $2.45, up three cents from two weeks ago.

Banking boss says firms preparing to leave UK before EU exit

LONDON (AP)—The head of the British Bankers' Association has warned that financial firms are planning to start leaving London within weeks because of uncertainty about the U.K.'s exit from the European Union. Chief executive Anthony Browne said in an article published Sunday that banks fear EU politicians will erect trade barriers with Britain in a bid to undermine the City of London, currently Europe's pre-eminent financial district. They also fear U.K.-based financial firms will lose the right to conduct business across the bloc. Browne wrote in The Observer newspaper that bankers' "hands are quivering over the relocate button." He said "many smaller banks plan to start relocations before Christmas; bigger banks are expected to start in the first quarter of next year."

Finding fun work in retirement

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: Like many baby boomers, I plan to continue working after I retire. However, I would like to do something completely different. For example, I recently met a retired executive who found a job working for a boat dealership. He delivers new boats to their owners and demonstrates all the features.

Although starting over will undoubtedly be difficult, I am very energetic and have a lot of useful experience. I'm also prepared to take a significant pay cut. My problem is that I don't know how to convey all this in a job application. How can I convince potential employers that I would be an asset to their business?

A: With compensation being less important, you are now in the enviable position of doing work for fun. Therefore, the first step is to determine what type of work you find appealing. Start by making a list of all your interests and hobbies and then brainstorm related employment possibilities.

Next, develop a plan for learning about jobs in your desired field. For example, your boat delivery buddy might have done research by attending boat shows, visiting dealerships or chatting with employees at a marina. Eventually, the people you meet along the way will become part of your job search network.

With a radical career change, networking will be your most valuable tool. Randomly submitting applications won't be helpful because your background has no apparent connection to the jobs you want. On the other hand, a personal conversation will allow you to convey your character, motivation and sincere desire to learn.

Since your ultimate goal is to get hired, be prepared to provide a concise career summary, highlighting any relevant skills and experience. If it's been awhile since you looked for work, take time to refresh your interviewing skills. And since this is part of your retirement, please remember to relax and enjoy the process.

Q: The co-worker who sits next to me makes huffing noises and says, "Oh crap," all day long. This drives me absolutely crazy. Yesterday morning, she actually huffed 35 times in three hours. When I ask if she's having a bad day, she always replies "No, I'm fine." Should I tell her how much this bugs me or just let it go?

A: I assume that "huffing" means an exasperated sigh, sort of like a nonverbal "oh crap." If so, this is probably just her automatic response to frustration. And I expect you already know that complaining about it will not be helpful. After all, if saying "your noises drive me crazy" was a comfortable thing to do, you would have already done it.

You may not realize, however, that you are actually exacerbating your own problem. Counting and commenting will only increase your awareness of these sounds, which is the exact opposite of what you want. So instead of resentfully awaiting the next huff, practice shifting your attention. Focus on your work, soft music, white noise or anything that helps. And if moving your desk ever becomes an option, go for it.

Nation

Looking past Trump, Clinton aims to help other Democrats

DURHAM, N.C. (AP)—Newly confident and buoyant in the polls, Hillary Clinton is looking past Donald Trump while widening her mission to include helping Democrats seize the Senate and chip away at the Republican-controlled House.

Though Trump's campaign insisted Sunday it was premature to count him out, it's Clinton whose path to winning the White House has only grown wider in the race's final weeks. Even longtime Republican strongholds such as Utah and Arizona suddenly appear within her reach on Nov. 8, enticing Democrats to campaign hard in territory they haven't won for decades.

The shifting political map has freed Clinton and her well-funded campaign to spend time and money helping other Democrats in competitive races. Clinton said she didn't "even think about responding" to Trump anymore and would instead spend the final weeks on the road "emphasizing the importance of electing Democrats down the ballot."

"We're running a coordinated campaign, working hard with gubernatorial, Senate and House candidates," said Robby Mook, Clinton's campaign manager.

And for good reason.

After a merciless two-year campaign, the next president will face the daunting task of governing a bitterly divided nation. If Clinton wins, her prospects for achieving her goals will be greatly diminished unless her victory is accompanied by major Democratic gains in Congress.

"We've got to do the hard and maybe most important work of healing, healing our country," Clinton said Sunday at Union Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina.

For Democrats, there's another reason to try to run up the score. With Trump warning he may contest the race's outcome if he loses, Clinton's campaign is hoping for an overwhelming Democratic victory that would undermine any attempt by Trump to claim the election had been stolen from him.

In a rare admission of fallibility by the typically boastful Trump, his campaign acknowledged he's trailing Clinton as Election Day nears.

"We are behind," Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway said. Still, she added, "We're not giving up. We know we can win this."

Conway laid out in granular detail Trump's potential path to winning: victories in Florida, Iowa, North Carolina, Nevada and Ohio, to start. If Trump prevents Arizona and Georgia from falling to Democrats and adds in some combination of Colorado, Virginia, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania, he could reach the 270 electoral votes needed, Conway said.

It won't be easy. A current Associated Press analysis of polling, demographic trends and other campaign data rates Virginia as solidly Democratic, while Colorado, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania are all leaning Democratic. Arizona, remarkably, is a toss-up.

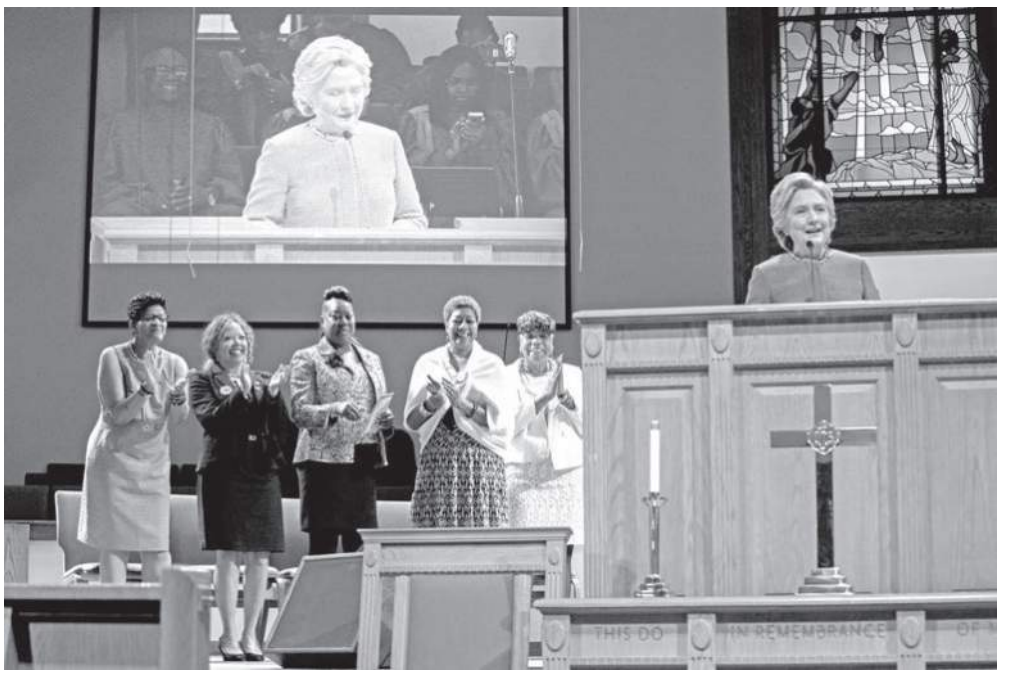
Campaigning Sunday in Florida, Trump called for voters to elect a Republican House and Senate that would "swiftly enact" his priorities, which include overhauling taxes, restoring higher spending on defense and repealing the Affordable Care Act.

"We can enact our whole plan in the first 100 days - and we will," Trump said.

If Clinton wins, Democrats would need a net gain of four Senate seats to retake the majority. House control would be much harder. Democrats would need a 30-seat gain, a feat they haven't accomplished in roughly four decades.

Clinton's nascent focus on helping fellow Democrats comes with an inherent contradiction. For months, she deliberately avoided the strategy employed by other Democrats of trying to saddle all Republicans with an unpopular Trump. In August, she said Trump represented the "radical fringe," rather than the mainstream of the Republican Party.

"We have not run this campaign as a campaign against the GOP with the big broad brush—we've run it against Donald Trump," Clinton's running mate, Tim Kaine, said in a weekend interview with The Associated Press.



AP

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is joined by mothers of black men who died from gun violence, Geneva Reed-Veal, left, mother of Sandra Bland, Lucia McBath, second from left, mother of Jordan Davis, Sybrina Fulton, center, mother of Trayvon Martin, Maria Hamilton, second from right, mother of Dontre Hamilton, and Gwen Carr, mother of Eric Garner as she speaks during Sunday service at Union Baptist church, Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016, in Durham, N.C.

Posting a ballot selfie? Better check your state laws first

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—You probably already know whether you'll vote for Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton on Election Day, leaving one important question to consider when you walk into your polling place: Is it OK to take a picture of your ballot?

While secrecy in the voting booth has become a thing of the past for those ready to share their views and daily lives on social media, laws nationwide are mixed on whether voters are allowed to take pictures of themselves in the act or of their ballots—"ballot selfies".

Federal judges have struck down bans on selfies in New Hampshire and Indiana, and rules have been changed in places like California and Rhode Island, but in many states it's still a violation that carries potential fines or jail terms.

There are laws against sharing any photo of your ballot in 18 states, while six other states bar photography in polling places but do allow photos of mail-in ballots, according to a review by The Associated Press.

Critics say such regulations have not kept up with technology and are confusing for voters and election workers. Some states that ban ballot selfies or have moved to block them cite concerns the photos could harm the integrity of the voting process by encouraging vote-buying or coercion, though some acknowledge there's no evidence to support those fears.

Nikola Jordan, 33, of Omaha, Nebraska, has been taking such photos for about 10 years and believes they are a great way not only to share her views on the issues, but also to stress the importance of voting and being civically active. A Nebraska lawmaker added a provision to state election law this year to allow ballot selfies.

"I was doing this for years before I learned it was technically illegal," Jordan said with a laugh. "It's all about encouraging other people to get involved in the process, to show it can be fun and exciting to make your voice heard (at the polls). Don't think of voting as some boring thing ... It's your chance to make a difference."

Tour bus slams into truck on slowed-down highway, killing 13

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—A tour bus returning home to Los Angeles from a casino trip plowed into the back of a semi-truck on a California highway early Sunday, killing 13 people and injuring 31 others, authorities said.

A maintenance crew had slowed down traffic on Interstate 10 before the vehicles crashed just north of the desert resort town of Palm Springs, California Highway Patrol Border Division Chief Jim Abele said. The work had gone on for hours without problems, he said.

Abele said the bus carrying 44 passengers was going much faster than the truck, though a trauma surgeon said the injuries he saw indicated it was slowing down at the point of impact.

"The speed of bus was so significant that the trailer itself entered about 15 feet into the bus," Abele told reporters. "You can see it was a substantial impact."

It was not known if alcohol, drugs or fatigue played a role in the crash about 100 miles east of Los Angeles, but the bus was inspected in April and had no mechanical issues, Abele said. The bus driver was killed, and the truck driver received minor injuries.

The bus was coming from Red Earth Casino in the unincorporated community of Thermal and was about 35 miles into its 135-mile trip back to Los Angeles.

CHP officers had been slowing traffic to allow Southern California Edison workers to string wires across the freeway, Abele said.

Passengers told officials that most people were asleep when the crash occurred at 5:17 a.m. Abele said it appeared the 1996 bus didn't have seat belts and likely didn't have a black box that newer vehicles feature.

Before April, the bus also was inspected in 2014 and 2015, the CHP said. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration records show it had no crashes in the two years before Oct. 22 and had a satisfactory safety rating.

West Virginia candidate for governor owes millions in taxes

HINDMAN, Ky. (AP)—Jim Justice, a coal billionaire running for West Virginia governor, owes millions in back taxes to some of Appalachia's most impoverished counties, including one in Kentucky that is struggling to pay the debt on a new rec center and has turned the lights off in its parks and reduced hot meals for senior citizens.

Many of these counties have been devastated by the collapse of the coal industry over the past few years, and their financial struggles are not all Justice's fault. But county officials say things would be a lot easier if he paid up.

"It's just absurd that a billionaire wouldn't pay his taxes," fellow Democrat Zach Weinberg, the top elected official in Kentucky's Knott County, said as he thumbed through a folder of Justice's debts.

Justice

Justice, who is leading in the polls, makes no apologies for the debt owed by some of his coal companies, saying he is doing everything he can to keep his businesses running and workers employed while other companies go under.

One of the biggest chunks of money owed is in Knott County, where Justice has unpaid taxes of $2.3 million dating to tax year 2014. That's a substantial hole, given the county government's $10 million budget and its separate $23 million school budget.

Justice has other unpaid tax bills scattered across the hills and hollows of eastern Kentucky: $1.2 million in Pike County, $500,000 in Floyd County, $228,300 in Magoffin County and $167,600 in Harlan County, according to county officials.

He also has millions in West Virginia state tax liens against his companies. Because of privacy laws, the state won't say whether he is paying them back.

The Associated Press has reported previously on Justice's debts to coal suppliers and contractors, and a recent National Public Radio report compiled a list of Justice company debts, including back taxes and mine safety fines totaling $15 million.

At the same time, Justice - the richest man in West Virginia, with a fortune estimated at $1.56 billion by Forbes magazine and a profusion of coal and agricultural interests - has spent almost $2.6 million of his own money on his campaign.

Asia

US: Duterte sparking distress around the world

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—America's top diplomat for Asia said Monday that Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's controversial remarks and a "real climate of uncertainty" about his government's intentions have sparked distress in the U.S. and other countries.

Daniel Russel, the assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, said he also relayed to Philippine Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr. international concern over continuing killings under Duterte's crackdown against illegal drugs.

Russel's visit to the Philippines, part of a three-nation trip to Southeast Asia, comes amid increasing uncertainty about Washington's treaty alliance with Manila. The brash Duterte, who took office on June 30, has displayed antagonism toward America, declaring his desire to scale back military engagements with the U.S. and telling President Barack Obama "to go to hell."

AP

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affair Daniel Russel issues his statement to reporters after meeting with Philippine officials at the Department of Foreign Affairs in suburban Pasay, south of Manila, Philippines on Monday, Oct. 24, 2016.

Duterte's administration, however, has not formalized his public declarations to remove U.S. counterterrorism forces from the volatile southern Philippines and stop large-scale joint exercises involving American forces, creating confusion among even his Cabinet officials.

In a major walk-around, Duterte sparked diplomatic alarm when he announced during a state visit to Beijing last week his "separation" with the United States. Upon returning home the day after his stunning remarks, Duterte said he did not mean he was severing diplomatic ties with Washington but only wanted to end a foreign policy that's overly oriented toward the U.S.

"I've pointed out to Secretary Yasay that the succession of controversial statements, comments and a real climate of uncertainty about the Philippines' intentions has created consternation in a number of countries, not only in mine," Russel told reporters Monday in Manila after a meeting with Yasay that went overtime.

The unease, Russel said, was also palpable "not only among governments, but also ... in other communities, in the expat Filipino community, in corporation board rooms as well."

"This is not a positive trend," he said, adding that the U.S. remains committed to continuing a solid alliance with and providing assistance to the Philippines, including in fighting the drug menace.

Russel said that while Washington welcomes the relaxation of tensions between Manila and Beijing under Duterte, the rapprochement should not come at the expense of the U.S. or other nations.

"It's a mistake to think that improved relations between Manila and Beijing somehow come at the expense of the United States," he said. "This should be addition and not subtraction."

China's Xi seeks to enforce will at Communist Party meeting

BEIJING (AP)—Having punished more than a million Communist Party members for corruption, Chinese President Xi Jinping will use a key meeting that started Monday to drive home the message that his signature anti-graft campaign is far from over and that his authority remains undiminished.

The Central Committee plenary gathering also sets in motion preparations for next year's 19th national party congress that will kickoff Xi's second five-year term as head of the ruling party.

At next year's gathering, Xi is expected to place trusted lieutenants into the party's top bodies, including the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee, five of whose seven current members are, by custom, due to step down. Only Xi and Premier Li Keqiang, with whom he doesn't always see eye-to-eye, are expected to remain.

This week's meeting comes as Xi is riding high as China's most powerful leader since Deng Xiaoping led the country in the 1980s and gaining kudos at home for his assertive foreign policy, including the leveraging of China's political and economic heft to open up a rift between the Philippines and its longstanding treaty ally, the United States.

Yet Xi's domestic challenges are legion, ranging from slowing economic growth to massive layoffs resulting from the closure of steel and coal mines and other heavy industries in an effort to reduce industrial overcapacity. The state sector still plays an outsize role in the economy, debt is soaring and the potentially volatile wealth gap continues to broaden.

Xi, the son of a former vice premier, has sought to exercise near total control by heading-up a collection of party "leading groups" including a newly created National Security Council that are seen as further eroding the legitimacy of established government institutions. Few political reforms have been mooted and Xi has drawn fire overseas for waging a sweeping campaign against activist lawyers and government critics resulting in a series of televised confessions reminiscent of Josef Stalin's show trials.

Official sources have offered little insight into this week's discussions bringing together the more than 350 Central Committee members and their alternates at a military guesthouse in western Beijing. The official Xinhua News Agency reported their theme would be "strengthening and standardizing intra-party political life," while seeking to "primarily resolve problems of Party leadership fatigue and slackness in party governance and discipline observation."

UK banker pleads not guilty to murder in Hong Kong trial

HONG KONG (AP)—The Hong Kong trial of a British banker accused of the grisly 2014 killings of two Indonesian women is expected to be "particularly horrifying," including photographic evidence of one victim's torture, the judge told prospective jurors as the case got underway Monday.

The banker, Rurik Jutting, entered a plea of not guilty to two murder charges that were read out at the High Court, with prosecutors rejecting his attempt to plead guilty to the lesser charge of manslaughter.

Jutting is charged with the murders of Sumarti Ningsih and Seneng Mujiasih, whose bodies were found in his upscale apartment near the Asian financial center's Wan Chai red-light district, in a case expected to highlight the Asian financial hub's inequality and privileged lifestyle of its wealthy expat elite.

Jutting, who wore a dark blue shirt, glasses and looked a lot slimmer than in his court appearances last year, was put into a glass-screened dock when he arrived in the court. When the clerk asked what his plea was to the two murder charge, he replied "not guilty to murder by reason of diminished responsibility but guilty of manslaughter," which the prosecutors refused to accept, meaning the trial on the murder charges will proceed.

A third charge was also read out, unlawful burial of Sumarti Ningsih's body, to which he pleaded guilty. Her body was found stuffed in a suitcase left in a balcony while Seneng Mujiasih's body had knife wounds on the neck and buttock, according to initial police reports.

Judge Michael Stuart-Moore said to jurors before the selection began that there were "particularly horrifying aspect to this case, with one victim subject to extreme violence and cruelty amounting to torture," before she died.

He said the evidence includes color photographs that "are not pleasant photographs to look at. They are extremely upsetting."

He added that "the defendant even recorded on his iPhone part of the torture he inflicted on his first victim," which will be shown to the jury.

"Much of what the jury will see or hear is very disturbing indeed," he said, but added that the Jutting is entitled to a fair trial.

While Jutting's initial guilty manslaughter plea was rejected, the judge told jurors that they could still decide between finding him guilty of murder or manslaughter.

Jutting is a Cambridge University graduate who worked for Bank of America-Merrill Lynch in structured equity finance and trading. If convicted, he faces life in prison.

The case shocked the former British colony, which has a reputation for being safe, while also highlighting the city's extreme inequality.

The victims had originally come to Hong Kong as foreign maids. But Seneng had let her domestic worker visa lapse and Sumarti had returned on a tourist visa.

ASIAN BRIEFS

2 explosions hit Japanese city, killing 1; suicide suspected

TOKYO (AP)—Two apparent explosions hit the Japanese city of Utsunomiya back-to-back Sunday, killing one person and injuring three others in what police are viewing as a possible suicide. Japanese media reports suggest that the victim, believed to be a 72-year-old former military officer, may have set his house on fire, blown up his car in a public parking lot and then blown himself up in a nearby park. A note found in the clothing of the badly burned victim included the name of the former officer, Japanese broadcaster NHK and other media reported. The name was not disclosed. One of the cars destroyed in a fiery blaze in the parking lot belonged to the retired military man, and his house burned to the ground earlier on Sunday, the reports said.

Police hunting for 230 escaped drug addicts in Vietnam

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—A Vietnamese official says 230 drug addicts are still at large after a mass escape from a rehabilitation center in southern Vietnam. Ho Van Loc, deputy director of labor department in Dong Nai province, said the breakout Sunday was started by two inmates and eventually 562 inmates escaped. Police have so far recaptured 332 of them and are searching for the others, he said. The center holds 1,481 inmates. Officials have said that rehabilitation programs in Vietnam—which combine education, communist ideology and physical labor for one to two years—have a high failure rate, with more than 90 percent of the addicts relapsing within five years.

South Korea leader proposes revising presidential system

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's president has proposed revising the country's Constitution to change the current single five-year presidential system. Critics quickly criticized President Park Geun's overture, saying it appears aimed at diverting public attention away from a snowballing corruption scandal involving a purported longtime confidant of hers. South Korea adopted the current system in 1987, ending decades of military-backed dictatorships. Under the current system, a president is barred by law from seeking a second term. Park's five-year term ends in early 2018. Park said in a speech Monday the current system makes it difficult for the government to maintain continuity of policies, including on rival North Korea.

World

Limited gains in first week of Iraq's Mosul offensive

KHAZER, Iraq (AP)—In the week since Iraq launched an operation to retake Mosul from the Islamic State group, its forces have pushed toward the city from the north, east and south, battling the militants in a belt of mostly uninhabited towns and villages.

In the heavily mined approaches to the city, they met with fierce resistance as IS unleashed suicide truck bombs, rockets and mortars. In other areas, the militants retreated, and in at least one village civilians rose up and overthrew them before the troops arrived.

IS meanwhile launched a massive assault on the city of Kirkuk, some 170 kilometers (100 miles) away, killing at least 80 people in two days of clashes in an apparent attempt to divert Iraqi forces.

Here is a look at the main developments during the first week of the offensive:

TERRITORIAL GAINS

Iraqi special forces captured Bartella, a historically Christian town some 15 kilometers (9 miles) east of Mosul, and celebrated victory by raising the Iraqi flag over its church and ringing the church bell.

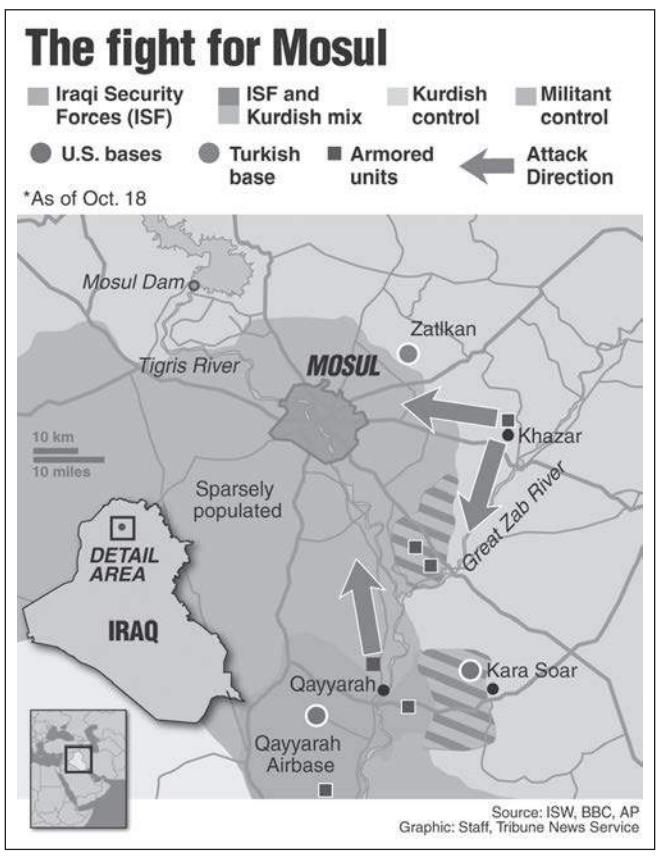
The Iraqi army's 9th Division pushed into the nearby town of Hamdaniyah and said it captured the main government compound. To the north, Kurdish forces known as the peshmerga have driven IS out of several villages and, along with Iraqi special forces, have encircled the town of Bashiqa.

Progress has been slower to the south of Mosul, where troops have only advanced to around 50 kilometers (30 miles) from the city. They were hampered over the weekend after IS torched a nearby sulfur plant, sending a cloud of toxic fumes into the air that mingled with smoke from oil wells the militants had lit on fire.

US ROLE

The U.S.-led coalition is providing airstrikes and ground support, with more than 100 American soldiers embedded with Iraqi units and hundreds more in staging bases near the front lines. An American soldier was killed by a roadside bomb near Bashiqa, marking the first U.S. casualty of the operation.

The peshmerga said Sunday that 25 of its fighters have been killed since the operation began. The Iraqi military has not released any casualty figures. Iraqi and Kurdish forces have asked for more coalition airstrikes, and the Kurds have requested more armored vehicles and roadside bomb detectors. They say most of the fallen peshmerga troops were traveling in unarmored vehicles.



Two Iraqi television reporters have also been killed, one while covering the fighting south of Mosul and the other while covering clashes in Kirkuk

HUMANITARIAN FALLOUT

The U.N. and aid organizations say some 5,000 civilians have been displaced since the operation began, a tiny fraction of the 1 million people remaining inside Mosul.

Aid groups fear that a mass exodus from the city could overwhelm camps set up around its outskirts, and the Iraqi government has called on Mosul residents to remain in their homes. Aid groups also fear that IS, which has been killing alleged informants in Mosul in recent weeks, may use civilians as human shields.

TENSIONS WITH TURKEY

The launch of the Mosul operation has aggravated tensions with neighboring Turkey over the presence of some 500 Turkish troops at a base near Bashiqa, where they are training Kurdish and Sunni fighters who are taking part in the offensive.

Baghdad says the troops are there without its permission and has ordered them to leave. Ankara has refused, insisting that it play a role in the Mosul operation. Turkey is closely allied with the Sunni former governor of Ninevah province, where Mosul is the capital, and Kurdish leader Masoud Barzani, both of whom have pressed for greater autonomy from Iraq's Shiite-dominated central government.

U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter visited the region in part to try to ease tensions between the two U.S. allies, but did not appear to make much progress, as both sides stood by their demands.

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi insists the operation is progressing ahead of schedule. But the fight to retake Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, is expected to take weeks, if not months.

Iraq's army and police are still rebuilding from their humiliating defeat in the summer of 2014, when IS seized Mosul and much of northern and central Iraq in a matter of days. They have struggled in the past to make progress on more than one front simultaneously, and they have only advanced a few kilometers (miles).

As they get closer to the city and take the fight to more populated areas, they will have to rely less on coalition airstrikes and heavy shelling. The militants will have a dense urban environment in which to hide, and they've had two years to prepare.

Officers: 83 Nigerian soldiers missing in Boko Haram attack

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria (AP)—Some 83 Nigerian soldiers are missing in action since Boko Haram Islamic extremists attacked a remote military base in the northeast, senior army officers said Sunday.

The soldiers were unable to fight back and fled because Boko Haram had superior fire power, the officers told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to give information to reporters.

Morale also was low among the troops because they were being rationed to one meal a day and their allowances were being pilfered by their commanders, the officers said.

Army spokesman Col. Sani Kukasheka Usman reported last week that "some" soldiers were missing and 13 wounded when the insurgents on Oct. 17 attacked their base in Gashigar village, on the border with Niger. Usman has not responded to requests for the actual number.

Dozens of fleeing troops jumped into the Niger River and 22 were pulled from the water by soldiers from that neighboring country, officers said. Many soldiers are feared to have drowned, they said.

In a separate development, hunters killed seven Boko Haram fighters who were burning buildings and huts in northeastern Makwaa village, the hunters and villagers confirmed Sunday. "We engaged them in a fierce battle for close to three hours, we overpowered them, resulting in the killing of seven," hunter Aisha Gombi said of Saturday night's firefight. "One was caught alive with gun wounds and others escaped into the bush."

President Muhammadu Buhari promised to better arm Nigeria's military when he was elected in March 2015, blaming corruption for the deaths of thousands including soldiers in the 7-year-old Islamic insurgency that has killed more than 20,000 people.

Billions of dollars meant to buy arms were stolen or diverted to the presidential campaign of former President Goodluck Jonathan, according to ongoing court cases.

Venezuelan Congress declares that Maduro has staged a coup

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuela's Congress on Sunday declared that the government had staged a coup by blocking a drive to recall President Nicolas Maduro in a raucous legislative session that was interrupted when his supporters stormed the chamber.

Opposition lawmakers vowed to put Maduro on trial after a court friendly to his socialist administration on Thursday suspended their campaign to collect signatures to hold a referendum on removing the deeply-unpopular president.

Lawmaker Julio Borges said the opposition-led congress is now in open rebellion after a majority of its members voted that the decision constituted a coup with government participation.

"We will bring a political trial against President Nicolas Maduro to get to the bottom of his role in the break with democracy and human rights here," Borges said.

A day of fiery speeches was briefly thrown into chaos when dozens of red-shirted protesters who had been heckling opposition lawmakers outside the capitol burst onto the floor. Lawmakers ran out of the path of protesters who chanted: "Congress will fall!"

It was not immediately clear how the protesters entered the heavily guarded building, which has been under the opposition's control since it won legislative elections in a landslide in December. The protesters began to file out of the building after Socialist party leader Jorge Rodriguez called on them to leave, leading the opposition to charge that Rodriguez was directing the protest.

Opposition spokesman Jesus Torrealba said the protest on the floor was a perfect illustration of the opposition's complaint that democracy has been suspended in the oil country.

"The fact that lawmakers elected by 7.5 million people were silenced by 300 thugs sums up the situation better than any speech could," he said.

Legislators also proposed efforts to replace national elections officials and Supreme Court judges.

Amid severe shortages and the world's highest inflation, polls suggest as much as 80 percent of voters want Maduro gone this year.

Haitian authorities recapture a dozen of 172 escaped inmates

ARCAHAIE, Haiti (AP)—Police officers were searching cars and boats for escaped prisoners on Sunday after recapturing at least a dozen of the 172 inmates who overpowered guards and fled from a lockup in central Haiti, the prison's director said.

The prison break occurred Saturday in Arcahaie, a coastal town about 30 miles north of Haiti's capital. The community is far from the southwest area that was slammed by Hurricane Matthew's eye earlier this month.

One guard was reported killed and an inmate died following a bad fall while trying to scale a prison wall.

Haitian National Police officers set up numerous checkpoints along roads to search vehicles. Small boats in fishing towns around Arcahaie were also being checked.

Heurtelou Paul Colson, director of the Arcahaie Prison, said the lockup housed 266 inmates.

Justice Minister Camille Edward Junior told Haiti's biggest newspaper, The Nouvelliste, that the alleged mastermind of the escape, convicted kidnapper Yvener Carelus, was among the men captured after the prison break.

"He planned the escape from the inside with a few accomplices," the minister was quoted as saying.

Prime Minister Enex Jean-Charles said the interim government has given clear instructions to the justice minister to "take all necessary measures to remedy this unacceptable situation."

Judge Henry Claude Louis-Jean said Saturday that the escapees stole an unknown number of weapons and some exchanged gunfire with police during the chaotic breakout.

The inmates attacked after they were released from a crammed holding pen to bathe, according to provincial authorities.

After the escape, the body of the dead corrections officer was sprawled on the ground and bullet holes marked the prison's main door. Inside, the wrought iron cell doors had been thrown open and sandals and clothing were scattered about. Authorities held a prisoner who tried to flee.

Focus

AP

In this Oct. 20, 2008, photo provided by Nikola Halycyone Jordan, Jordan poses with her election ballot in Omaha, Neb. Jordan believes the selfies are a great way not only to share her views on the issues, but also to stress the importance of voting and being civically active. A Nebraska lawmaker added a provision to state election law in 2016 to allow ballot selfies.

Ballot selfies:

A look at where they are allowed or not

Secrecy in the voting booth has become a thing of the past for those ready to share their views and daily lives on social media, but laws nationwide are mixed on whether voters are allowed to take pictures of themselves voting and their ballots. How states handle the question :

STATES WHERE BALLOT SELFIES ARE ALLOWED

CONNECTICUT: No law bans ballot selfies, according to Patrick Gallahue, a spokesman for Secretary of State Denise Merrill. But election moderators have discretion to prohibit activity "that threatens the orderly process of voting or the privacy of another voter's ballot."

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: There's no ban. Election officials discourage people from taking pictures but won't do anything to stop them, said Tamara Robinson, a spokeswoman for the D.C. Board of Elections.

HAWAII: A law passed this year allows voters to share a digital image of one's own marked ballot.

IDAHO: There's no law banning them, the secretary of state's office said.

INDIANA: A federal judge last year barred the state from enforcing a new law prohibiting ballot selfies.

KENTUCKY: Secretary of state spokesman Bradford Queen says state law does not allow people to record the likeness of a voter, but the law does not say whether voters can record their own likeness. Therefore, the secretary of state's office routinely tells county clerks the law does not prohibit ballot selfies.

LOUISIANA: Secretary of State Tom Schedler says ballot selfies are allowed in the state, though he's not a fan of them.

MAINE: The secretary of state discourages ballot selfies because there's a ban on making unauthorized ballot copies, but there's no law against voters posting photos of their marked ballot.

MINNESOTA: Allowed as long as they're not shown to fellow voters at the polling place or capture another person in the photo.

MONTANA: Law does not specifically prohibit the use of cameras at polling places, but election administrators and judges have broad authority to limit disruptive activity, according to Emily Dean, spokeswoman for the secretary of state. Sharing photos of absentee ballots is also not banned.

NEBRASKA: Gov. Pete Ricketts signed a bill in April that allows someone to show their marked ballots to others without risking a $100 fine.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: The 1st Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston last month upheld a decision that a ban was unconstitutional, saying it suppresses a large swath of political speech and there was no evidence to support the state's concerns.

NORTH DAKOTA: Photos inside polling places are allowed.

OREGON: All voting is done through mail-in ballots, which voters are free to photograph. A state law prohibiting showing a marked ballot to another person was repealed in 2014, according to Molly Woon, a spokeswoman for Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins.

RHODE ISLAND: The Board of Elections adopted new rules in time for November's election that allow for selfie-taking inside polling places. The updated regulations allow voters to take photos as long as they don't show another person's ballot.

UTAH: Gov. Gary Herbert signed a bill last year that makes it legal for people to snap pictures of themselves with their ballots. The law makes it a misdemeanor to photograph someone else's ballot.

VERMONT: No rules regarding photos in polling places. Clerks are encouraged to adopt specific rules for their polling places to maintain order, according to Jim Condos, a spokesman for the secretary of state.

VIRGINIA: Attorney General Mark Herring issued a formal opinion last month that says ballot selfies are legal in Virginia. Nothing in Virginia law prohibits voters from taking pictures of themselves, fellow voters or their ballot within the polling place, he said.

WASHINGTON STATE: It's not against the law in Washington, but a spokesman for Washington state Secretary of State Kim Wyman said the office doesn't recommend it.

WYOMING: No laws against ballot selfies. Law does allow judges of elections to "preserve order at the polls by any necessary and suitable means."

STATES WHERE BALLOT SELFIES ARE ILLEGAL

ALABAMA: Not allowed because voters have "a right to cast a ballot in secrecy and in private," said a spokesman for Secretary of State John Merrill.

ALASKA: A state law bans voters from showing their marked ballots, but Division of Elections Director Josie Bahnke says there is no practical way to enforce it.

COLORADO: Ballot selfies or any public dissemination of a marked ballot are considered a misdemeanor. A 2016 bill to repeal the ban failed.

FLORIDA: Photographs are not allowed in polling places or of mailed ballots.

GEORGIA: Law prevents photos of ballots or the screens of electronic voting machines.

ILLINOIS: Banned by a law that considers "knowingly" marking your ballot so that another person can see it is a felony that carries of prison sentence of one to three years.

KANSAS: Secretary of state says a selfie showing a picture of the actual ballot violates state law.

MASSACHUSETTS: Taking a photo of a completed ballot in a polling location is banned in Massachusetts. But the state's top election official, Secretary William Galvin, says there's little the state can do to prevent it. Photos of mailed ballots are also banned.

MICHIGAN: Michigan bans photographs of ballots, but a resident is challenging the law as unconstitutional.

MISSISSIPPI: Photos showing how someone marked their ballot after voting are prohibited.

NEVADA: Photos inside polling places are not allowed, except by the media. Photos of mailed ballots are also banned.

NEW JERSEY: Law prohibits voters from showing their ballot to others. A pending legislative measure would allow voters to take photos of their own ballots while in the voting booth and share it on social media.

NEW MEXICO: Law prohibits voters from showing their marked paper ballot "to any person in such a way as to reveal its contents."

NEW YORK: Photos showing a completed ballot or indicating how a person cast their vote are not allowed.

NORTH CAROLINA: Photographing or otherwise recording a voted official ballot is not allowed.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Law bars voters from allowing their ballots to be seen. A 2012 state attorney general's opinion says that makes it illegal to reproduce a ballot by cellphone, video camera or iPad.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Secretary of State Shantel Krebs says ballot selfies are not allowed because they can be considered influencing a vote or forcing someone to show proof of voting.

WISCONSIN: State law prohibits sharing photos of ballots.

STATES WHERE THE LEGAL STATUS IS MIXED OR UNCLEAR

ARIZONA: Bars photography within 75 feet of polling places. But the Legislature changed the law that barred showing photos of completed ballots in 2015 to allow posting of early ballots on social media.

ARKANSAS: Nothing in state law prohibits taking photos while in a polling place as long as it's not disruptive or being used for electioneering purposes, but state law on sharing voter choices is unclear.

CALIFORNIA: Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill last month that repeals a 125-year-old law barring voters from showing people their marked ballots. The change will take effect nearly two months after the presidential election, but legislative analysts have found no occasion of the ban being enforced. The author of the bill, in fact, has been sharing constituents' photos of marked ballots on social media since the law passed.

DELAWARE: Has a policy against cellphones in voting booths, but elections Commissioner Elaine Manlove said: "I don't know that we can control what happens behind the curtain."

IOWA: Law prohibits the use of cameras, cellphones or other electronic devices in voting booths, so Secretary of State Paul Pate has asked voters not to take selfies with ballots. Photos of absentee ballots are OK.

MARYLAND: Bans electronic devices in a polling place except for the media. And even media members aren't allowed to photograph a ballot that shows how someone is voting. But photos of mailed ballots are OK.

MISSOURI: Law prohibits voters from allowing others to see their ballots if the intent is to show how they voted. Secretary of state spokeswoman Stephanie Fleming described ballot selfies as a "gray area" and advises voters to check with local election authorities.

OHIO: Has a longstanding prohibition against voters letting their ballot be seen with the "apparent intention" of letting it be known how they are about to vote. The state elections chief has advised local election boards to consult their own attorneys about how to apply the law.

OKLAHOMA: Officials recommend against it, noting that state law dating back about 40 years suggests it is illegal but outlines no penalties.

PENNSYLVANIA: Law prohibits someone from revealing their ballot "letting it be known how" they're "about to vote." But officials recently released guidance on electronic items in polling places that noted the recent court cases that "found a First Amendment right to take 'ballot selfies.'"

TENNESSEE: Voters are not allowed to take photos or videos while in polling places. Voters are not allowed to take photos or videos while in polling places. They're only allowed to use electronic devices for informational purposes to assist during voting, according to Adam Ghassemi, a spokesman for Secretary of State Tre Hargett. The state's law doesn't address mail-in ballots.

TEXAS: Bars photography within 100 feet of polling stations, so selfies are not allowed. Photos of mail-in ballots are OK.

WEST VIRGINIA: Electronic devices are banned inside voting booths, according to Secretary of State Natalie Tennant. Nothing in the law prohibits photos of mail-in ballots. ***(AP)***

Overdrive

Self-driving, electric car future not necessarily cleaner, or cheaper

By GREG GARDNER
DETROIT FREE PRESS

There's little question that autonomous vehicle development will do more to spur electric vehicle sales than $6-a-gallon gas, but would a surge of EVs on our roadways bring an environmental benefit?

That depends on where you live. In Michigan, and most of the industrial Midwest, the answer is no, according to a study conducted by Stephen Holland, professor of economics with the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and the larger cities of Texas, the answer would be a resounding yes.

In New York, it's basically a wash.

"In the West, utilities don't use much coal, but (they) do use a lot of natural gas and hydroelectric power," Holland said.

As vehicles powered by electricity make up a larger percentage of the nation's fleet over the next generation, demand for electricity could surge. That extra power has to come from somewhere—and right now, nearly two-thirds of electricity generated in Michigan comes from burning fossil fuels.

There is a movement already under way to retire aging coal-fired plants and replace them with capacity fueled by natural gas, hydroelectric, solar and wind. But some worry about future capacity as demand likely rises and the pressure increases to add a higher percentage of potentially less-reliable renewable sources to the mix. The sun does not always shine and the wind does not always blow. There is also an extra cost to ratepayers of bringing cleaner energy online.

AP
In this photo taken May 18, 2016, a Google self-driving car is seen on display at Google's I/O conference in Mountain View, Calif.

According to the most recent state-by-state energy profiles published by the U.S. Energy Information Administration, between 37 percent and 38 percent of electricity generated in Michigan came from coal-fired plants, 27.5 percent comes from natural gas, 29 percent comes from nuclear, 5 percent from renewables such as wind and solar, and 1 percent comes from hydroelectric.

In California none of the state's electricity comes from coal. Nearly half, 48 percent, comes from natural gas, 27 percent comes from renewables, 17 percent comes from hydroelectric power and 8 percent comes from nuclear generators.

Holland cautions that the cost-benefit analysis is more complicated than the energy sources of a state's or city's grid. "Electricity doesn't stop at utility borders," he said.

In addition, tailpipe emissions from gas-burning cars can do more harm in regions such as Los Angeles, which is set in a basin or natural bowl rimmed by mountains where pollutants can become trapped.

Holland and his research team focused on five pollutants—carbon dioxide (CO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen oxide (NO_x), particulate matter (PM 2.5), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). They considered 11 different 2014 models of electric vehicles and the "closest substitute" gas car.

Whenever possible they used an exact equivalent, as with the Ford Focus, which comes in both electric and gas-powered versions.

To calculate the damage from gas-burning cars, they weighed the car's Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy ratings (city miles per gallon for urban counties, highway MPG for rural areas), average wind patterns, and number of environmental damages to health, infrastructure, and crops. Together, that data gave them the aggregate emissions of driving a certain gas car 1 mile in a given U.S. county.

To find the impact from electric vehicles, the researchers used the car's fuel-efficiency equivalent (kilowatt-hours per mile) to measure how much power it took from the grid. They also had information about the emission patterns from nearly 1,500 power plants throughout the country.

From that they could get an estimate of the draw from the grid when an EV owner plugs in, showing the environmental impact at the power source.

The Union of Concerned Scientists in 2015 published a two-year study that looked at emissions from production, operation and disposal of electric and gasoline vehicles. Among the findings: battery-electric cars generate half the emissions of an average comparable gasoline car, even after factoring in pollution from battery manufacturing.

The scientists group study looked at three life stages of any vehicle—manufacturing, operation and end-of-life.

During the manufacturing phase, gas-burning cars are more efficient because of the materials and energy used in making lithium-ion batteries. The longer the batteries' range, the most emissions used in making them.

MOTORMOUTH:

Overcharging car battery will kill it

By BOB WEBER
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Q: We have a 2006 Toyota Sienna with 40,000 miles. The car sits in the garage most of the time waiting for us to remember it's there. Often when we do remember, the battery is already dead, and I have to charge it using a 30-year-old charger with 10-amp and 2-amp settings. If I leave the charger connected all the time at 2 amp setting, would it cause damage to the battery?

A: If you leave the charger connected continuously, even at a mere 2 amps, the battery eventually will die. Overcharging a battery causes excessive gassing—the electrolyte gets hot and both hydrogen and oxygen gas are generated. On older vented batteries, the electrolyte could cook away, leaving the plates exposed and ruining them. On sealed batteries, the buildup of gases could cause the battery to burst. Charging your battery at the 10-amp rate is fine to get your battery back into service. But if you don't want to go through this drill, buy a battery maintainer (as opposed to a charger) that will charge it as necessary and then turn itself off until the battery voltage drops again. Float or maintenance chargers such as a Battery Tender keep the battery charged without the risk of damage.

Q: I have a Honda Accord SE. Lately upon accelerating there is a hesitation or almost tugging feeling, especially under 20-25 mph. I took it to my Honda dealer and they told me it was not transmission related, but that I needed both front drive shaft assemblies replaced. Had that done but still having issues. Any suggestions?

A: Having the drive shafts replaced for a hesitation problem is like having your kidney replaced for a hearing problem. Since we do not have enough information to make a stab at what is causing the hesitation, we can only advise you to find a better service provider where the technicians will, like a good doctor, diagnose the problem before performing surgery.

Q: I own a 2014 Ford Escape with a 2.0-liter engine. I cannot find the location of the cabin air filter. I would like to check and replace it if necessary. The owner's manual states that it is under the instrument panel in the passenger foot well area. I looked to no avail. The dealership service rep told me the glove compartment has to be removed in order to access the filter. What is your assessment?

A: Your owner's manual is right. The service rep is wrong. (You should have spoken with a technician who does the job.) The filter is in the HVAC housing under the dash near the center of the vehicle. From the passenger side, you simply remove the filter cover, which is held in place with one screw. You have to first remove the plastic trim panel under the dash to gain access to the HVAC housing. Two fasteners hold it up.

UNDER THE HOOD: Air conditioner smells and a mysterious squeak

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: As usual, your recent column about how to freshen up a stinky air conditioning system was very informative. I'm curious, though, when using Lysol spray to disinfect a foul-smelling system, should I take out the cabin air filter?

I'm not sure where all the ducting goes or what order things are in, but if the Lysol hits the air filter before reaching the air conditioning system's evaporator, will some of the chemical wind up clogging the filter?

In another matter, I have a 2003 BMW Z4 2.5i with an automatic transmission and about 165,000 miles on it. Upon initial acceleration (when the engine's torque revs up), the car's rear end lets out a high-pitched squeak that then disappears once I'm cruising (and torque is reduced). You cannot hear it with the windows up and the noise does not correlate with braking.

I replaced the differential oil, which was low and somewhat dirty, but that did not get rid of the noise. Could the rear-wheel bearings be the cause? Any suggestions are welcomed, but I know it is hard to diagnose over email and when you cannot hear the noise yourself.

A: Peter, you bring up a great point about the cabin filter. The majority of current vehicles utilize a paper, carbon, or paper-carbon filter to keep dust, pollen, and other debris from passing through the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system. I should have mentioned that renewing the filter could help reduce offensive odors as it may contain bacteria in addition to that found deeper within the system. Air conditioner-specific disinfectants can also be purchased at a neighborhood auto parts store and may work better than Lysol. Removing the cabin filter prior to spraying a disinfectant would allow a greater rate of passage and eliminate the possibility of the filter becoming temporarily saturated with the product. On some vehicles, removing and replacing the filter is an easy, do-it-yourself project, while with others, the car is seemingly built around the part.

Your BMW squeak is a bit perplexing. It sounds like this is a repetitive sound as opposed to a single one. BMW released a service bulletin in 2009 (SI B33 04 08) addressing the possibility of a single clicking or cracking sound during take-off or torque change. The fix is to lubricate the differential input flange-pinion shaft splines. Replacement of the pinion flange seal and collar nut retaining plate are also specified.

I'm thinking a repetitive noise that is not affected by braking might be caused by a worn or dry constant velocity joint in one of the rear axles. If inspection indicates a rubber boot crack or tear, it's possible lubrication has escaped and dirt has entered the joint. You might also try, with the vehicle safely elevated and supported and fresh off a long drive, yanking and twisting on the joints, checking for looseness and checking for elevated temperature at each end of both axle shafts, which would indicates excessive friction.

Low differential fluid isn't a good thing but would have no effect on wheel bearings as they are permanently lubricated and sealed. A noisy wheel bearing should sound off differently when turning to one side or the other. Noises related to low or contaminated differential fluid include a 20 mph and up drone/whirring noise (carrier bearings), a whine on deceleration (pinion shaft bearings), and a whine during acceleration frequently the result of a ring and pinion gear problem.

Life & Style

Bill Murray accepts humor prize after a gentle roast

By BEN NUCKOLS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—In an evening filled with jokes about Bill Murray's elusiveness and quirky personality, it was David Letterman who provided the most touching moment as Murray was honored with the nation's top prize for comedy.

Murray, 66, received the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor on Sunday night at the Kennedy Center, joining several other "Saturday Night Live" alumni to win the annual award. After he was presented with a bust of Mark Twain, Murray handed it to a man in the first row of the audience and urged the crowd to pass it around.

Known for living outside the Hollywood bubble, Murray admitted he was uncomfortable sitting in a box with his family while more than a dozen of his co-stars and collaborators spoke warmly about his body of work.

"It's really hard to listen to all those people be nice to you for two days," Murray said. "You just get real suspicious."

His acceptance speech followed a heartfelt tribute by the bearded Letterman, who made a rare public appearance since his late-night show ended last June. Murray was a guest on Letterman's shows 44 times over the years, and the two grew close, even spending time together at Letterman's vacation home in Montana.

AP
Bill Murray arrives at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for the 19th Annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor presented to Bill Murray on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016, in Washington.

After an appearance in 2003, Letterman told Murray that his then-infant son would be christened that weekend. An hour later, Letterman said, a package was delivered to his office containing a handmade Irish linen christening gown.

"That Saturday, my son, in Bill Murray's christening gown, was christened at St. Ignatius in Manhattan, and we have this memory, we have this gift, we have this gesture for the rest of our lives," Letterman said.

There were plenty of laughs at Murray's expense in evening that took on the tone of a gentle roast. Jimmy Kimmel, Aziz Ansari, Sigourney Weaver and Steve Martin were among those who ribbed Murray for being aloof, unpredictable and difficult to reach—and somehow still lovable.

"I think you and I are about as close as two people can be, considering that one of them is you," Martin said in a video tribute.

The show, which was taped for broadcast Friday on PBS, had one major stumble, courtesy of Miley Cyrus, who cursed repeatedly and made an excuse about smoking too many cigarettes after she botched the lyrics to a version of "My Way." Despite not having a microphone, Murray came to her rescue, joking with the crowd from his seat as Cyrus and the crew set up for a second attempt at the song, which went more smoothly.

After getting his break on "Saturday Night Live," Murray went on to star in some of the most successful comedies of the 1980s and 1990s before transitioning into more dramatic roles. He was nominated for an Oscar for his soulful turn as a washed-up actor in Sofia Coppola's "Lost in Translation."

He's become a folk hero in the social-media era by turning up unannounced at wedding receptions, kickball games and house parties. He's also a regular at Chicago Cubs games and celebrity golf tournaments.

This weekend, he got to meet President Barack Obama. And what did the two men talk about? "Putting," Murray said before the show.

Murray lives in South Carolina, doesn't have an agent or a publicist and rarely does in-depth videos. He famously forces people offering him scripts to call an 800 number and leave a voicemail. He said he would have been happy to skip the festivities surrounding the prize, especially if his beloved Chicago Cubs hadn't already advanced to the World Series.

"If this could all have been done in a letter that I received, that would have been enough," Murray told The Associated Press on the red carpet. "It's hard to stand still for this. It's a squirm-a-thon for me."

The prize was first awarded in 1998 and goes to those who influence society in the tradition of Samuel Clemens, the writer, satirist and social commentator better known as Mark Twain. Other "Saturday Night Live" alumni who've received it include Tina Fey, Will Ferrell and last year's winner, Eddie Murphy.

Charles Barkley has something to say about race in America

NEW YORK (AP)—Charles Barkley calls it friendly fire.

When he talks about racial issues, it isn't only whites he risks angering. Some of the biggest complaints come from fellow blacks, who figure he's too rich, too successful to possibly understand their struggles.

"Like, those people say he's not black anymore, he shouldn't speak on black issues," Barkley said. "I'm like, 'Dude, I'm always going to be black,' but that's a double-edged sword I'm willing to deal with."

So not only will he keep talking, he wants to lead the conversation.

The basketball Hall of Famer and TNT analyst will debut "The Race Card" on the network in 2017, a show that won't just be about black and white, because Barkley believes America's problems are more about rich versus poor.

"I just want to do a positive dialogue because I'm sick of arguing over race all the time," Barkley said. "Like, I'm very aware that racism does exist, it always has and probably always will, but the media does a really poor job. There's more good than bad, but the bad pops off the newspaper and on television. And like I said, the truth is somewhere in the middle."

Barkley

On one hand, he seems an unlikely choice to be looking for it. In a Nike commercial during his playing career, he said himself he's no role model , and he still doesn't like the term now. And wearing a Ralph Lauren sweater and matching brown slacks during a lunch at a Manhattan restaurant Tuesday before slipping into a tuxedo for the induction of TNT's "Inside the NBA" studio show in the Broadcasting Hall of Fame, he does project the image of a comfortable life.

But born in Alabama in 1963, the year Ku Klux Klan members killed four girls in a Birmingham church bombing, he sees the same struggles now as during his youth. Like many of today's athletes, he's discouraged by the killings of blacks by white police and the protests, sometimes violent, that have followed.

Quarterback Colin Kaepernick of the San Francisco 49ers has been kneeling in protest during the national anthem, and many NBA players have stood with arms locked during the preseason. Barkley respects their actions but would like to see more.

"It goes back to the Kaepernick thing," he said. "I said, you do what you want to do, you're a grown man. But I challenge all these guys, what are you actually doing in the black community to help our people?"

For Barkley, that's included donating millions to his high school and colleges in Alabama. But he can't blame today's athletes who grapple with their involvement, a discussion he had with a professor for the show.

"He says, 'First of all, it's unfair for all you guys to have to solve the ills of all the black community. It's unfair, you guys aren't activists because you all haven't lived what those guys have been through,'" Barkley said. "And he says, 'I really think it's cool that you all are trying, but to try to compare today's black athletes to Jim Brown, Bill Russell, (Muhammad) Ali and those guys, we're doing them a disservice because those guys like lived.'

Tyler Perry's 'Madea' tops Cruise's 'Jack Reacher' sequel

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Tyler Perry bested Tom Cruise at the box office this weekend.

Perry's "Boo! A Madea Halloween" opened in the top spot with an estimated $27.6 million, edging Cruise's "Jack Reacher: Never Go Back" into second place, according to studio estimates Sunday.

It's the third best opening for a "Madea" movie, behind "Madea Goes to Jail" and "Madea's Family Reunion" and a sign of the character's longstanding appeal to audiences.

To market the film, which reportedly cost $20 million to produce, Lionsgate leveraged the social media audiences of Perry and his cast as well as promotional videos like one featuring Jimmy Fallon as Trump alongside Madea that ended up going viral.

"Tyler Perry is a movie star. Tyler Perry is a mogul. The Madea character has provided box office dividends for years. It's a perfect combination, Madea and Halloween right before Halloween," said comScore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian.

That timing, along with the promising A CinemaScore, should bode well for the film's second weekend over Halloween.

"A Madea Halloween" proved to be the strongest of the slew of sequels this weekend, topping even the star power of Tom Cruise, whose "Jack Reacher: Never Go Back" took in $23 million for Paramount Pictures.

It's a far cry from Cruise's successes with the "Mission: Impossible" movies for Paramount, but it did do significantly better than the first "Jack Reacher," which opened right before Christmas in 2012 to $15.2 million. That film went on to gross $80.1 million domestically and $218.3 globally. The sequel, directed by Edward Zwick and costing $60 million, will also likely be making the bulk of its money from international audiences.

1. **"Tyler Perry's Boo! A Madea Halloween,"** $27.6 million.
2. **"Jack Reacher: Never Go Back,"** $23 million ($31 million international).
3. **"Ouija: Origin of Evil,"** $14.1 million ($7.9 million international).
4. **"The Accountant,"** $14 million ($5.6 million international).
5. **"The Girl on the Train,"** $7.3 million ($5.9 million international).
6. **"Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children,"** $6 million ($13.5 million international).
7. **"Keeping Up with the Joneses,"** $5.6 million ($2.5 million international).
8. **"Kevin Hart: What Now?"** $4.1 million.
9. **"Storks,"** $4.1 million ($6.8 million international).
10. **"Deepwater Horizon,"** $3.6 million ($1.8 million international).

Pop stars and fast cars: Taylor Swift plays Formula One

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—With their red, white and blue tutus and Taylor Swift T-shirts, Rachel Emling and Mikala Crews were everything Formula One wanted at the U.S. Grand Prix: young fans who would travel across the country for a mix of pop stars and fast cars. Tens of thousands packed into the Circuit of the Americas on Saturday night for Swift's only concert of the year at Formula One's only race on American soil.

Formula One's goal in booking Swift was to hook a new generation of fans to their sport in America, long considered an untapped market for the global racing series. Landing fans like Emling and Crews, NASCAR fans from Jacksonville, Florida, was exactly what they hoped for. They came for the concert and love the cars.

"We've been watching a little bit. It's cool," said 20-year-old Emling, who said they'll return for Sunday's race. "We like racing."

The race weekend scheduled her show after Saturday qualifying and before Sunday's race. One group watching is Liberty Media, the American group that is taking over Formula One's commercial entity and will be looking for ways to grow the sport. Track president Bobby Epstein had predicted as many as 40,000 would be lured in by Swift.

AP
Taylor Swift performs on the eve of the Formula One U.S. Grand Prix auto race at Circuit of the Americas, Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016, in Austin, Texas.

The concert was a big opportunity for the singer as well. Swift's face was splashed all over publicity efforts for the race that promoters hope will draw 250,000 this weekend just as Swift is rumored to be close to releasing a new album. And she's not alone in the music lineup. Usher and The Roots were scheduled to play at the track after the race Sunday night.

But Saturday night belonged to Swift as she dazzled fans with set that ran about 90 minutes, full of hits from her previous albums. The only stumble was a cold she said got three days earlier. At one point, she stopped between songs to blow her nose.

She also acknowledged the international makeup of her crowd that danced and sang throughout her set.

"This show is really important because we have people from all over the world," she told the crowd. "Thank you for that."

Swift also sang "This Is What You Came For," a smash hit by her ex Calvin Harris featuring Rihanna. The piano performance of the song was notable given that Swift only revealed that she co-wrote the song with Harris under a pseudonym after the pair broke up, causing Harris to angrily lash out at her on Twitter.

Swift drew a mix of fans young and old, from race fans curious to thousands more who came solely to see her.

After Saturday's qualifying ended, young girls with their parents and packs of young women started filing into the stadium. They stood in line at food and drink vendors alongside the die-hard race fans dusty from sitting all day in the grass berms around the track.

Charlene Frollo of Austin brought her daughter in a gaggle of girls, all aged 9 or younger. As a group, they wore pink and white "Swiftie" shirts Frollo had designed herself. They arrived well after the day's main event on the racetrack but still got to see some of the support races and hear the cars growling around the circuit.

"It was fast. It was like 'RRRRRRRR,'" said 8-year-old Brie Bauman.

Would they like to see more?

"Yeah, I guess so," said 7-year-old Avery Frollo.

Charlene Frollo said her husband and sons will be coming back for the Sunday race, but was glad the girls got to experience something new.

Old mental institution attracts filmmakers and the curious

MANSFIELD, Conn. (AP) They have heard the stories of floating orbs and disembodied voices, and officials at the University of Connecticut say they really shouldn't have to tell people that the abandoned mental institution the school owns is not actually haunted.

"As far as I know, we have no confirmed ghost sightings," said Tom Breen, a school spokesman, tongue firmly in cheek.

But that hasn't stopped the curious from sneaking into the abandoned buildings on property covering more than 350 acres that for decades housed the Mansfield Training School, where people with mental disabilities were institutionalized. Trespassers come out especially at the start and end of every school year, and around Halloween.

The state gave the 350-acre property to UConn after the institution, which began in the 1800s as the "Connecticut School for Imbeciles" and moved to Mansfield in 1917, was closed in 1993. The university's main campus is a few miles down the road in Storrs.

Twenty-three years later, about half of the 57 buildings on the property remain as they were when the last of its 1,800 residents left. UConn can't tear them down, because the property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. There are broken windows, holes in roofs, rusting fire escapes, trees and vines growing in and around the crumbling porches. Graffiti messages, including those reading "Get Out" and "Red Water Flows," are written in red paint on the walls of former classroom buildings, dormitories and the old night hospital.

An old theater remains, along with set backdrops still suspended above the stage, along with a projector. There is a bowling alley in one basement and wall decorations in classrooms are as they appeared decades ago.

DJ Khaled and fiancée welcome baby boy on Snapchat

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's a boy for music producer DJ Khaled and his fiancée Nicole Tuck, who welcomed their first child into the world early Sunday morning.

Khaled chronicled the birth in a series of snapchats showing the inside of the delivery room where he can be heard telling the doctor that "it's go time."

The video clips took place over a period of about 10 hours, showing nearly everything about the birth while his album "Major Key" played in the background.

After Tuck gave birth, Khaled said that he was going to let audiences hear the crying baby only. He also stamped his arm with the ink print of his son's foot.

Clerk questions if she should report potential child abuse

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 20-year-old college student and have had a job at the same retail store for two years. A few weeks ago, a mother walked in holding a baby that appeared to be about 6 months old. The first thing I noticed was that he had numerous bruises. There were pronounced bruises under both eyes, another large one on his temple, and several more visible on his arms and legs.

I have heard horror stories about parents whose infants have a medical condition that causes them to bruise easily, but the parents are accused of child abuse. This mother seemed attentive to her baby, and I saw nothing in her behavior to make me think her child was in any danger. I didn't say anything, but I keep wondering if I should have called the police or informed my manager.

I've been telling myself that there may have been an innocent explanation for the child's injuries, but I don't know if I screwed up. I didn't want to meddle, and now I'm worried the baby might be suffering because I didn't speak up. Any advice on what I should have done/should do in the future would be appreciated.

SECOND THOUGHTS IN KANSAS

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: Because you were unsure about what to do, you should have written down the woman's license number, if possible, and alerted the store manager so the matter could be handled according to store policy.

However, if no policy is in place, you could have contacted Childhelp.org for guidance. It offers prevention, intervention and treatment programs and has helped more than 10 million children at risk or in trouble. Childhelp.org has a national toll-free hotline: 800-422-4453.

DEAR ABBY: What is the protocol for divorced parents paying for the rehearsal dinner for their son who is getting married? My ex-wife expects me to pay for a significantly bigger portion of the expenses, yet at the time of our divorce she insisted on splitting the assets 50/50.

My opinion is that because we are equal in the parenting, we should divide the expenses 50/50. I'm willing to concede to her some credit IF she does a significant amount of work and planning (over and above my own), but this should be negotiated ahead of time. We are both employed and have good incomes. We are both remarried and our spouses work. What's your take on this, Abby?

RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE

DEAR DOWN THE MIDDLE: The parents of the groom traditionally bear the cost of the rehearsal dinner. Because you and your son's mother are divorced, she should pay for half—unless there is such a disparity in your incomes that it would cause her financial stress. If your ex needs "credit," then by all means discuss it with her. This is a time to put aside old grievances and celebrate, if only for the sake of your son.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: What do you think of the idea that when you have a decision to make and it's between your head and your heart, to choose your head? We are currently trying to find a place to live after my husband retires, and we are having a difficult time trying to decide on a house. It's tough to say no to a place that your heart loves.

INDECISIVE IN NEW YORK

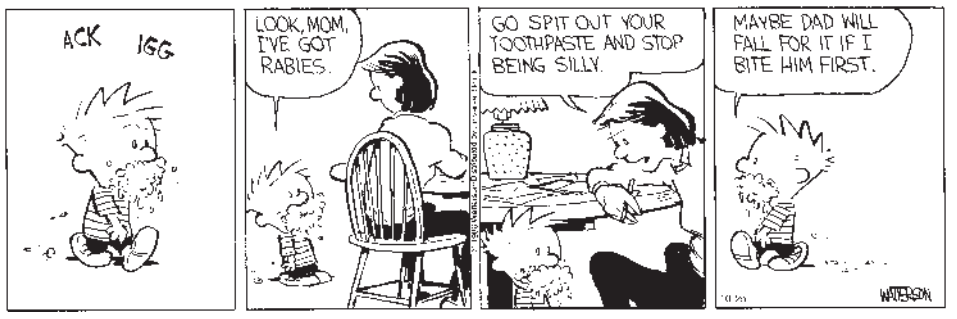
DEAR INDECISIVE: I'm sure it is. However, investing in a house is different than adopting a puppy. When making a decision that will have financial consequences -- such as buying a house—you will have fewer regrets if you think with your HEAD.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

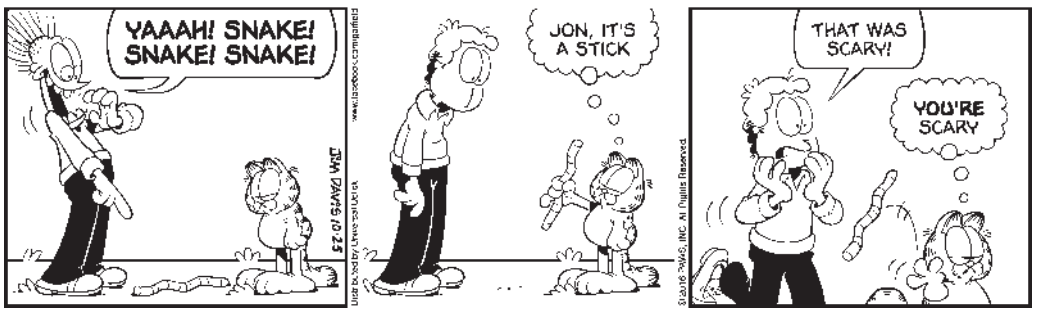
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


ACK IGG.
LOOK, MOM, I'VE GOT RABIES.
GO SPIT OUT YOUR TOOTHPASTE AND STOP BEING SILLY.
MAYBE DAD WILL FALL FOR IT IF I BITE HIM FIRST.
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



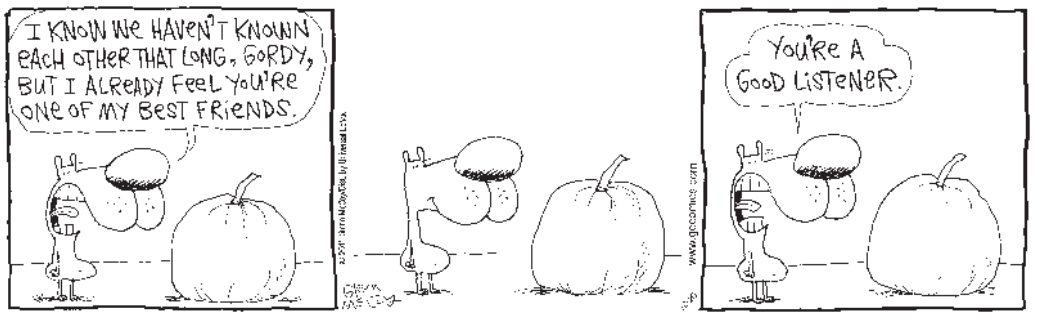
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HISSS! GAAA!!
OHMIGOSH! THAT WAS SO...
DID YOU JUST HEAR CLAYTON WAIL OUT IN EXCRUCIATING PAIN?
IT'S PROBABLY ONE OF HIS HALLOWEEN ALBUMS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Harvard rival
5 Swab the deck
8 False god
12 Dutch cheese
13 Glamorous Gardner
14 "Casablanca" role
15 Fatherly
17 Track circuits
18 Actor Harrison
19 Vain person
21 Line dance
24 Classic R&B record label
25 Sheltered
26 Heaton of "The Middle"
30 "Kidnapped" monogram
31 "Today" host Matt
32 Switch positions
33 Clinic clients
35 Tubular pasta
36 Superhero's garment
37 King of Crete
38 Jungle trek
41 Junior
42 Sharif of film
43 Obviously
48 Carte
49 Outback bird
50 "Got it"
51 Work units
52 Bro or sis
53 Related

DOWN

1 "Uh-huh"
2 Nabokov novel
3 Long. crosser
4 Come into view
5 Tailless cat
6 Eggs
7 Paint-mixing boards
8 Mississippi city
9 Jai —
10 Nile vipers
11 Endure
16 Actor Stephen
20 Teri of "Tootsie"
21 Kvetch
22 Earthen pot
23 Tree home
24 Fry lightly
26 Primitive flutes
27 Mint product
28 Division word
29 Unrepaired
31 Tragic king
34 He flew too close to the sun
35 Colorful flower
37 Curly's brother
38 Not all
39 From the U.S.
40 Sharp tooth
41 Ticket half
44 "— Blue?"
45 "For shame!"
46 Wahine's gift
47 Hankering

Solution time: 22 mins.

M	A	Y		C	O	D	E	R		A	H	A
A	B	A		A	N		M	A		M	A	V
F	E	Y	K	J	A	V	I	K		S	K	I
			I	O	S			E	S		E	D
C	A	S	A	L	S		S	I	T	E		
L	O	T		C	I	N		N	O	R	M	A
A	N	C	N		S	A	P		A	D	E	S
D	F	C	O	R		G	E	M		A	V	A
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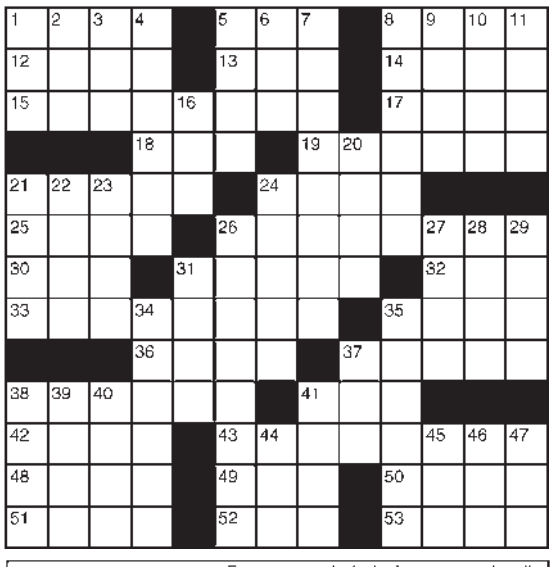
R	E	O		E	D		N	B	L	R	G	H
C	E	L		G	E	N	I	E		V	E	E
H	M	M		E	D	G	A	R		S	E	X

Yesterday's answer 10-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ciara, 31; Katy Perry, 32; Josh Henderson, 35; Zachary Knighton, 38.

Happy Birthday: Strengthen your resolve in what you are doing and how you do it this year. Learn as you go and don't rule out the unusual. Creative thinking will help you orchestrate what you want to see happen and give you the strength to follow through with your plans. Experience will be your ticket to success. Your numbers are 2, 8, 15, 22, 28, 36, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Pump up your energy and believe in what you are capable of doing. Don't be misled by a fast talker with ulterior motives. Trust your judgment and follow through with your plans. A romantic evening should be a priority. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You have more control than you realize. You'll get what you want if you ask. Your insight will impress someone who has something to offer. Business trips and meetings look promising. Don't let personal issues interfere with your work. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotional issues will unfold if you overreact. Spending is not going to solve problems and may actually contribute to your stress. Look at the big picture and consider ways to compromise or set new incentives. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't take on someone else's responsibilities. You have far too much to lose if you don't step up and concentrate on the things that will benefit you. Charity begins at home and you deserve to do something that makes you happy. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Making alterations to your living arrangements will cause inconveniences. You will be happy with the results, but not so pleased with the process of completion. Look for activities you can do that will bring you closer to someone you love. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Emotions will escalate and are best directed into projects that make you feel good and help you prepare for whatever happens next. Take your time to mull things over before making a decision or move. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Problems at home can be rectified if you take a practical approach and offer incentives that will motivate everyone to get along with each other. Stay calm and try not to overreact. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You'll gain support by offering practical solutions with a unique twist. Your insight into what's going on at home and at work will put you in a key position to get what you want. Persuasive tactics will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Emotional matters will surface, making you reconsider your options. Learn from past mistakes and do whatever is necessary to keep the peace. An emotional discussion will help solve a problem. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Keep pressing forward with determination and intensity. A financial opportunity looks promising, but joint ventures do not. Don't let love dictate how you spend your money. Invest in yourself and in products that will help you excel. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let mixed emotions or someone using manipulation stop you from getting things done. Promote your skills and look for new ways to bring in extra cash. You can rely on your past experiences to help you make the right choice now. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Your emotions will tip the scale if you let what others do interfere with your well-being. Use your intelligence to reach your goals and do your best to coordinate and concur with people who can help you advance. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, competitive and protective. You are eager and assertive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			6			2		
		1	3			9		
5	6			7			8	
			5		8		7	4
		5		9		1		
8	2		1		3			
	5			3			6	1
		4			5	8		
		2			7			

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	7	4	1	8	9	2	3
9	2	4	7	3	6	1	8	5
8	3	1	9	2	5	7	4	6
3	9	6	8	7	2	5	1	4
5	7	8	3	4	1	6	9	2
4	1	2	6	5	9	3	7	8
7	6	5	2	9	4	8	3	1
1	4	3	5	8	7	2	6	9
2	8	9	1	6	3	4	5	7

Difficulty Level ★ 10/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

RED VELVET CAKE Solution: 9 letters

C	R	F	L	U	F	F	Y	L	L	E	J	I	B	H
U	O	O	I	Y	R	E	K	A	B	I	V	N	S	E
P	U	N	E	L	H	I	C	O	C	O	A	I	B	A
C	Q	D	F	C	L	M	S	S	T	U	N	H	R	T
A	I	A	A	E	I	I	I	E	M	R	I	C	I	G
K	L	N	Y	M	C	L	N	L	A	E	L	C	G	N
E	A	T	O	O	U	T	S	G	K	Y	L	U	H	I
G	R	I	F	U	G	F	I	T	E	A	A	Z	T	N
R	S	F	Ⓢ	S	N	U	F	O	I	L	X	D	C	E
T	E	Ⓖ	T	S	E	H	R	I	N	R	U	O	A	T
E	Ⓖ	X	L	E	V	D	S	T	N	E	O	O	R	R
Ⓔ	S	E	I	K	O	O	C	T	A	L	R	F	T	O
W	Y	N	G	M	A	E	R	C	E	C	I	S	X	H
S	A	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	V	R	E	S
P	A	S	T	A	S	R	E	T	T	U	B	E	A	T

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Bakery, Beat, Beets, Bright, Butter, Chocolate, Cocoa, Coffee, Confectioners, Cookies, Cool, Cupcake, Eggs, Extract, Filling, Fluffy, Fondant, Food, Ganache, Garnish, Heat, Ice Cream, Jelly, Layer, Light, Liquor, Make, Milk, Mixer, Moist, Mousse, Muffin, Nuts, Oven, Pan, Pasta, Rise, Roux, Serve, Shortening, Slice, Stir, Sweet, Vanilla, Yogurt, Zucchini

Yesterday's Answer: Install

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47**, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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Requires: High School Diploma or a GED with prior work experience in luxury retail sales and must be able to lift at least 15 pound items and carry it for at least 100 yards with or without using a trolley. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese (Mandarin) languages. Must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Familiarity with the POS System is preferred.

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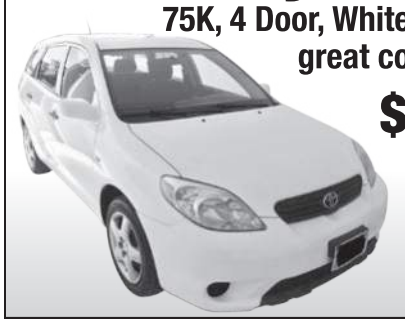

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Opening date: October 25, 2016 **Closing date: November 10, 2016**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

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Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Thursday, November 10, 2016.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at cpa.personnel@pticom.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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Kickers miss short field goals, Seahawks, Cards tie 6-6

GLENDALE, Arizona (AP)— Seattle's Stephen Hauschka and Arizona's Chandler Catanzaro missed short field goals that would have won it in overtime and the Seahawks and Cardinals tied 6-6 on Sunday night.

Hauschka's 27-yard field goal was wide left with seven seconds left after Catanzaro's 24-yarder bounced off the left upright.

The last tie in the NFL came in 2014, when Carolina and Cincinnati tied 37-37. The tie was the Cardinals' first since Dec. 7, 1986, a 10-10 draw at Philadelphia when the franchise was based in St. Louis. It was the first for the Seattle since entering the NFL in 1976.

The Cardinals (3-3-1) dominated the game statistically and looked to be in shape to win it after Carson Palmer's 40-yard pass to J.J. Nelson set up Catanzaro's short kick.

The Seahawks (4-1-1), stuffed throughout regulation by the Arizona defense, took over and Russell Wilson completed passes of 31 yards to Jermaine Kearse and 27 yards to Doug Baldwin to give Houschka his short attempt. Both kickers made field goals on their teams' first possession of overtime.

Catanzaro, who kicked field goals of 46 and 45 yards, also had a 39-yard field goal blocked by a stunning play by Bobby Wagner when he hurdled Arizona long snapper Aaron Brewer.

Cardinals coach Bruce Arians argued loudly for a penalty and was charged with a timeout when he challenged a play that is not reviewable. That proved significant when the Cardinals couldn't stop the clock to get off a short field goal attempt as the first half ended.

AP

Arizona Cardinals outside linebacker Chandler Jones (55) forces Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson (3) to fumble during the second half of a football game, Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016, in Glendale, Ariz. The Seahawks recovered the ball and had to punt.

Eagles 21, Vikings 10

In Philadelphia, Josh Huff returned a kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown, Carson Wentz outplayed Sam Bradford and Philadelphia handed Minnesota its first loss of the season.

The Eagles (4-2) snapped a two-game slide while the rested Vikings (5-1) hardly looked like an unbeaten team after having a bye.

Bradford returned to Philadelphia for the first time since his trade to Minnesota eight days before the season opener paved the way for Wentz to start. Bradford was 7-7 in his only season with the Eagles and won his first four starts for the Vikings.

But the Eagles pressured and harassed their former quarterback all game, sacked him six times, and forced his first three turnovers this season.

Dolphins 28, Bills 25

In Miami Gardens, Fla., Jay Ajayi tied an NFL record by surpassing 200 yards rushing for the second game in a row. Ajayi rushed for 214 yards in 29 carries after totaling 204 yards a week earlier in a win over Pittsburgh. He scored on a 4-yard run , and busted a 53-yarder when the Dolphins were pinned at their 3 and trailing in the fourth quarter.

The Dolphins (3-4) used an extra lineman much of the time to clear big holes for Ajayi, who tied the NFL record for consecutive 200-yard games held by O.J. Simpson, Earl Campbell and Ricky Williams.

Miami overcame an 11-point deficit with 16 minutes left to end a four-game winning streak by the Bills (4-3) and beat them for only the second time in their past seven meetings.

Buffalo RB LeSean McCoy, ranked second in the NFL in rushing, started, but totaled only 11 yards in eight carries before departing with a hamstring problem.

Patriots 27, Steelers 16

In Pittsburgh, LeGarrette Blount ran for 127 yards and two scores while Tom Brady completed 19 of 26 passes for 222 yards and two touchdowns.

Steelers quarterback Landry Jones played capably while filling in for Roethlisberger, who watched from the sideline after undergoing left knee surgery last week.

Making his third career start, Jones threw for 281 yards with a touchdown and an interception. But undermanned Pittsburgh (4-3) lost its second straight when its defense failed to keep Brady under wraps.

New England (6-1) remained perfect since Brady returned from his four-game "Deflategate" suspension, emphatically responding to a push by the Steelers with a pair of second-half touchdowns. Brady improved to 9-2 against the Steelers, throwing for 26 touchdowns and three interceptions.

Chargers 33, Falcons 30

In Atlanta, Josh Lambo's 42-yard field goal in overtime gave San Diego its first road win of the year as the Chargers rallied from a 17-point deficit.

The Chargers (3-4) trailed 27-10 in the second quarter. They had lost 11 of their past 12 road games.

Linebacker Denzel Perryman delivered two key plays late in the game. Perryman's interception of Matt Ryan's pass for Julio Jones set up Lambo's tying 33-yard field goal with 18 seconds remaining in regulation.

Perryman's fourth-and-1 stop on running back Devonta Freeman gave San Diego the ball at Atlanta's 43 for the Chargers' winning drive. Perryman grabbed Freeman's feet behind the line for the key tackle on the Falcons' gamble.

Chiefs 27, Saints 21

In Kansas City, Mo., Alex Smith threw two touchdown passes in another efficient outing, and Daniel Sorensen returned an interception of Drew Brees for another touchdown.

Spencer Ware ran for 77 yards to go with his 46-yard touchdown reception, and Tyreek Hill made an acrobatic 38-yard TD catch to help the Chiefs (4-2) win their ninth straight at home.

Brees got the Saints (2-4) within 24-21 with his touchdown pass to Brandon Coleman with 2:33 left, but the ensuing onside kick went out of bounds. Kansas City added a 41-yard field goal, and the Saints could do nothing in the final 28 seconds.

Brees finished with 367 yards and three TD passes.

Raiders 33, Jaguars 16

In Jacksonville, Fla., Latavius Murray scored twice in his return from turf toe, and the Raiders gave coach Jack Del Rio a victory against his former team.

Murray, who missed the past two games, finished with 59 yards on 18 carries. Michael Crabtree caught eight passes for 96 yards and a touchdown from Derek Carr, Sebastian Janikowski kicked four field goals, and the Raiders played the kind of defense they've been looking for all season.

The result was the team's most complete win of the season. Oakland improved to 4-0 on the road and moved to 5-2 for the first time since 2001.

The Jaguars (2-4), meanwhile, dropped a third straight at EverBank Field and added more speculation about the future of coach Gus Bradley. Jacksonville fell to 14-40 during Bradley's four seasons, and the latest loss was filled with poor execution on both sides of the ball and a lack of discipline down the stretch.

Lions 20, Redskins 17

In Detroit, Matthew Stafford threw a go-ahead, 18-yard touchdown pass to Anquan Boldin with 16 seconds left.

The Lions (4-3) extended their winning streak to three games. The Redskins (4-3) had won four straight.

Stafford, who set up game-winning kicks in the previous two games, led his team to another win in the 100th game of his career. He was 18 of 29 for 266 yards, one TD and no turnovers.

Kirk Cousins scored a go-ahead TD on a 19-yard run with 1:05 left.

The Redskins, though, failed to stop Stafford from throwing or running on his last possession and could not overcome mistakes that included turnovers, a missed field goal and penalties.

Giants 17, Rams 10

In London, the Giants capitalized on four interceptions of Case Keenum in the first NFL game played at London's home of English rugby, a sold-out and raucous Twickenham Stadium.

Keenum, coming off the best start of his career, had the Rams at the Giants' 15-yard line with 50 seconds left when he lobbed a pass in the left corner of the end zone that Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie easily picked off. Keenum's intended target, Brian Quick, failed to get the quarterback's audible and cut off his route early.

Keenum, who finished 32 of 53 for 291 yards and one touchdown, has thrown an interception on the Rams' final offensive play of the last three games. That likely will fuel debate on a potential quarterback change to overall No. 1 draft pick Jared Goff.

Landon Collins returned his first of two picks 44 yards for a second-quarter touchdown, and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie also had two interceptions.

Bengals 31, Browns 17

In Cincinnati, A.J. Green's one-handed catch in the middle of an end zone scrum highlighted Cincinnati's day full of big plays.

Green's 48-yard touchdown catch on the final play of the first half helped the Bengals (3-4) regain their footing in the injury-depleted AFC North. The defending division champions piled up their most points since they beat the Browns 37-3 last December. Jeremy Hill had a 74-yard touchdown run as part of his 168-yard effort, the best by a Bengals running back in seven years.

The Browns (0-7) extended their worst start since 1999, when they were a first-year expansion team. The NFL's only winless team also lost yet another quarterback — the theme of their season. Cody Kessler got hit hard while throwing a shovel pass in the second quarter, then went to the locker for a concussion evaluation and was ruled out. That left the offense in the hands of undrafted rookie Kevin Hogan, the Browns' sixth quarterback of the season.

Colts 34, Titans 26

In Nashville, Tenn., Andrew Luck threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Jack Doyle with 1:55 left to put Indianapolis ahead to stay, and the Colts rallied to beat the Titans for their 10th straight win against their AFC South rival.

The Colts (3-4) came in having lost two of three, including blowing a 14-point lead in an overtime loss last week at Houston. But Luck he improved to 8-0 against the Titans with yet another comeback win. He finished with 353 yards passing and three TDs, the last after Tennessee went up 23-20.

T.Y. Hilton caught seven passes for 133 yards, including a 37-yard TD. The Colts shook off 12 penalties for 131 yards in pulling out their 15th win in 16 games against Tennessee.

The Titans (3-4) saw their two-game winning string end.

Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri kicked a pair of field goals, and the second, a 33-yarder with 3:46 left in the third quarter gave him an NFL record 43 consecutive field goals made.

Jets 24, Ravens 16

In East Rutherford, N.J., Ryan Fitzpatrick replaced an injured Geno Smith and led the Jets on three scoring drives, and a rejuvenated defense came up with two rare interceptions.

Fitzpatrick came in for Smith in the second quarter and led the Jets on a go-ahead drive capped by a 13-yard touchdown catch by Matt Forte. Fitzpatrick finished 9 of 14 for 120 yards and a touchdown as the Jets (2-5) snapped a four-game losing streak.

Smith injured his right knee while taking a sack from Baltimore's Matthew Judon. Fitzpatrick was efficient after losing his job earlier in the week.

Joe Flacco started for Baltimore (3-4), loser of four in a row, after being questionable with a sore shoulder. He went a team-record 176 consecutive throws without an interception before Buster Skrine picked off his pass in the third quarter.

Buccaneers 34, 49ers 17

In Santa Clara, Calif., Jameis Winston threw three touchdown passes and Jacquizz Rodgers ran for 154 yards.

The Bucs (3-3) fell behind by 14 points early before scoring 27 straight to deal the Niners (1-6) their sixth straight loss for San Francisco's longest losing streak since 2008.

Mike Evans caught eight passes for 96 yards and two touchdowns, Russell Shepard scored on a 19-yard pass from Winston, and Peyton Barber iced the game with a 44-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter to help Tampa Bay win its second straight game around its bye week.

Colin Kaepernick struggled in his second start of the season for the 49ers, going 16 for 34 for 143 yards and turning the ball over twice after kneeling once again for the national anthem.

Indians embrace underdog role in World Series against Cubs

CLEVELAND (AP)—Any other year, against any other team, the Cleveland Indians would be the sentimental choice in this year's World Series.

You know, because of that long championship drought and all.

But not against the Chicago Cubs.

The lovable Cubbies, who captured the nation's heart by exorcising curses and winning their first NL pennant since 1945 on Saturday night and are aiming for their first Series title since 1908, are a popular pick.

The odds makers in Las Vegas have pegged the Cubs as heavy favorites going into Game 1 on Tuesday night.

Heck, even First Fan Barack Obama, a die-hard White Sox supporter, said he was happy to see the North Side of Chicago rocking.

Well, all the love toward the NL champions has left the Indians as underdogs—a role they've embraced this October.

"We believe in each other," first baseman Mike Napoli said Sunday before the Indians held a workout and simulated game at Progressive Field. "We believe that if we go out there and play the game the right way, play as a team like we've done, we can win a game on any night. We've shown in the past two series we can't be taken lightly. We play as a team.

"We're a confident group."

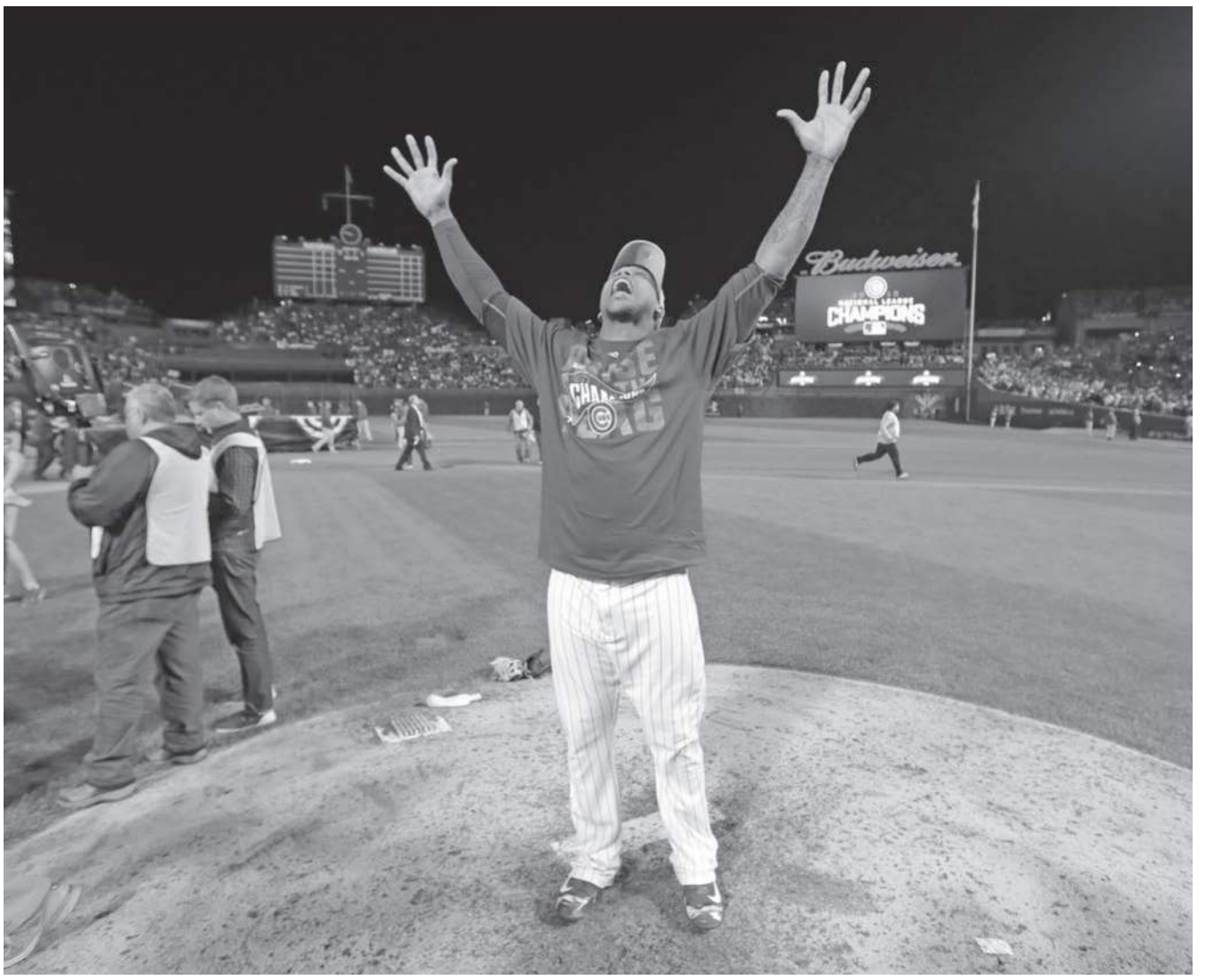
And that assuredness has only grown. Cleveland wasn't supposed to beat Boston, but the Indians swept Big Papi into retirement and the Red Sox into their offseason sooner than expected. Cleveland's pitching staff followed that by whittling Toronto's big bats down to toothpicks in the AL Championship Series.

Now on deck are the Cubs, who won 103 games during the regular season, have three aces at the top of the rotation, a flame-throwing closer and seem to have a date with destiny.

The Indians, though, know they can match up with anyone.

"They're a good team from top to bottom," said supreme setup man Adam Miller, who has spent the postseason toying with hitters. "They have three guys that might be Cy Young (winners). We're going to be going against a good team, that's not a surprise. If you want to count us out, that works for us."

Many of the Indians watched Chicago's historic win, which was followed by a street party outside Wrigley Field that nearly lasted until dawn.



AP

Chicago Cubs relief pitcher Pedro Strop celebrates after Game 6 of the National League baseball championship series against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016, in Chicago. The Cubs won 5-0 to win the series and advance to the World Series against the Cleveland Indians.

As it unfolded, Napoli found himself pulling for former Red Sox teammates Jon Lester, John Lackey and the Cubs. The more he thought about a Cleveland-Chicago series the more he liked it.

"I was rooting for them," Napoli said, wearing one of his popular "Post Party At Napoli's" T-shorts. "I thought it would be one of the coolest World Series to be a part of."

The Indians are looking to end their own 68-year title drought, and they spent the past few days resting while the Cubs and Los Angeles Dodgers finished their series. The down time has allowed Cleveland to get healthier, but manager Terry Francona revealed a new injury for his team, which has spent much of the 2016 season dealing with sprains, strains and even a few stitches.

Second baseman Jason Kipnis hurt his left ankle following Game 5 in Toronto.

"Some of the guys had a tough time getting through the celebration," said Francona, who added Corey Kluber would start Game 1 at home. "He went over to embrace (shortstop) Frankie (Lindor) and he rolled his foot on Frankie's foot. So he's got a low ankle sprain. The good part is it's not a high ankle sprain. You hear that all the time and I never know what it means, but it doesn't sound good. He's going to be OK.

"Thankfully we had some time off, which is good. He's not moving yet like he can, but I'm guessing with another 48 hours and 37,000 screaming fans, I bet he'll be OK."

Kipnis took grounders as head athletic trainer James Quinlan watched. Later, Kipnis didn't appear to favor his ankle while hitting against several Cleveland pitchers during the simulated game, which included crowd noise being pumped into the ballpark.

Nothing could replicate Tuesday's anticipated ambience when fans in both cities will hang on every pitch, knowing that each win moves their club closer to a coveted championship.

Before the first batter even steps to the plate, this World Series already has the potential to be a classic.

Two Midwestern cities separated by roughly 300 miles. Two teams with heartbreak in their pasts.

One team will end its lengthy title quest, while the others' will linger.

Napoli can't wait for it to get started.

"The Cubs have a lot of history. We have a lot of history," he said. "The big things are the droughts. That's why I wanted it to be us versus them because I think it will probably be the coolest thing ever to be a part of that—going to Wrigley on the road to see that atmosphere.

"That's something I live for."

Bryant, Baez and other young Cubs critical in title chase

CHICAGO (AP)—Kris Bryant says he gets chills every time the fans at Wrigley Field shower him with "MVP!" chants.

The 24-year-old just doesn't show it—a common trait among his young teammates. If anything can overwhelm these kid Cubbies, they haven't faced it yet.

Bryant was one of five players 24 or younger in the starting lineup for the Cubs during Game 6 of the NL Championship Series, and that group is showing maturity beyond its years. Keep this up, and they could give Chicago a party generations in the making.

Bryant has already established himself as one of the game's top power hitters. Javier Baez (23 years old) made one spectacular play after another in the infield while winning NLCS co-MVP. Addison Russell (22) is an All-Star shortstop with power and Gold Glove aspirations. Catcher Willson Contreras (24) and outfielder Albert Almora Jr. (22) are rookies getting at-bats with a heavy World Series favorite.

And so the Cubs are seeking their first championship since 1908 fueled by players too young to remember the first time a Clinton vied for the U.S. presidency.

Chicago beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NLCS for its first pennant since 1945, and now faces the Cleveland Indians in the World Series with a chance to end the sport's longest title drought.

If Chicago's youngsters feel any jitters before Game 1 on Tuesday night in Cleveland, don't expect to see them.

"Our young players are playing like they're 32-year-old veterans," 2015 NL Cy Young Award winner Jake Arrieta said. "It's just fun to watch. I get to play one out of every five days, but to really see the way our guys go about taking care of business makes me really appreciate the guys I'm able to play with."

Bryant and the other burgeoning Cubs helped Chicago lead the majors with 103 wins in the regular season, and it's been more of the same in October. After pulling out 14 victories in their final at-bat during the regular season, the Cubs did it twice against San Francisco in the NL Division Series, then rallied from a 2-1 series deficit to beat the Dodgers.

Veterans like Jon Lester have done their part, but the younger players have had plenty of pivotal moments, too.

None more so than Baez, a breakout star this postseason with his lightning-quick tags and preternatural decision making in the field.

He shared NLCS MVP honors with Lester after leading the Cubs to their 17th pennant and is batting .342 this postseason. He hit a winning homer off Johnny Cueto in Game 1 of the NLDS against San Francisco, then had a go-ahead single in the series-clinching victory in Game 4. He had four doubles and five RBIs in the NLCS, too.

Baez's biggest moments, though, mostly came outside the batter's box. He stole home during Chicago's win in Game 1 of the NLCS, turned a heads-up double play by letting a soft liner bounce in front of him with two on in Game 2, and made a fantastic barehanded scoop to rob Adrian Gonzalez of a hit in Game 5.

Baez is doing all that after emerging as a super utility player for manager Joe Maddon this season. Baez cut down on his swing and hit .273 with 14 homers and 59 RBIs in 142 games, and as important, he embraced a role shuffling between positions.

"This guy never faltered," Lester said. "He accepted his role as being a bench player and kind of a platoon guy. That's hard to do at 20 or whatever he is."

Bryant is on the short list of NL MVP candidates after joining Rogers Hornsby (1929), Hack Wilson (1930) and Derrek Lee (2005) as the only players with the franchise to get at least 120 runs, 35 doubles, 39 homers and 100 RBIs. He's 13 for 39 with a homer and six RBIs in the postseason.

Russell is only starting to make an impact in October, busting a 1-for-24 slump by going 6 for 13 with two homers in the final three games of the NLCS. Contreras, meanwhile, hit his first career playoff homer against Clayton Kershaw in the series clincher.

"You should not change what you're doing regardless of the time of the year," Maddon said after Game 6. "You want to come out in the middle of October and play the same game we've been playing all summer."

The youngsters have given the Cubs a lot of good games so far. Four more, and as Maddon said, "We can really have a party."

Talaabwogh rallies past MGNEL Construction

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Talaabwogh Stars pulled off a come-from-behind win over MGNEL Construction, 67-65, in the second game in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League last Saturday at the San Antonio court.

Talaabwogh overhauled a 16-point deficit in the third and limited MGNEL Construction to 4 points in the fourth quarter to get its second straight victory in seven games.

MGNEL Construction once held a 59-43 advantage midway in the third period behind the hot 3-point shooting of Mark Ferrer, who buried four triples in the penultimate quarter.

Talaabwogh then fought back late in the third frame and completed its comeback bid in the fourth with Sandrew Kani and Henry Aguon joining forces in the recovery. Kani scored 6 of Talaabwogh's last 10 points in the third quarter, which ended with MGNEL Construction (2-5) ahead by only 11, 61-50.

Talaabwogh moved closer as Kani was still on fire, while Aguon also found his target. Talaabwogh finally stole the lead in the last two minutes and hung tough in the end to steal the win. Kani tallied 10 points in the fourth frame, while Aguon chipped in 6.

MGNEL's 4 points in the fourth-quarter collapse were courtesy of the one field goal apiece of Chris Liles and Ferrer.

Aguon paced Talaabwogh with his 19 points, while Kani contributed 18. Ferrer led all scorers with his 23 markers.

Meanwhile, in the first game, the O'Aces stretched their unbeaten record to five after outclassing Saipan Apparel, 70-66.

No Ol'Aces player broke into double figures in their 4-point win over Saipan Apparel, but it did not prevent the former from keeping their clean slate as they still had a balanced offense. Five Ol'Aces players scored at least 8 points and the team led right from the start to hand Saipan Apparel its second loss in five games.

With their perfect mark, the Ol'Aces are still on top of the 11-team field. Only the Top 8 squads after the round-robin elimination will advance to the playoffs. A single-elimination format will be in place in the first round of the playoffs and once the league is down to four teams, the format will be double elimination.

AP Interview: Vogel brings positivity, winning ways to Magic

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Tipping off an NBA season isn't new to Frank Vogel, yet this year is a different for the veteran coach.

The always optimistic Vogel is preparing to begin a new era with the Orlando Magic after being unceremoniously dismissed by the Indiana Pacers. He is embracing the challenge of returning the Magic to the playoffs for the first time in the post Dwight Howard era.

"I want to see our guys succeed," Vogel said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I want to see smiles on their faces when they get over this hump and they achieve what we all know they are capable of achieving. I want to see our fans embrace it and enjoy it. They deserve it."

The Pacers let Vogel go after five seasons, making the New Jersey native one of the most sought after coaches this offseason—and Vogel wasn't unemployed very long.

Two weeks after his firing, Vogel was introduced as coach of the Magic, who had been stunned when Scott Skiles quit in May after one playoff-less season in Orlando.

Vogel is the ideal fit of the defensive-first profile Magic general manager Rob Hennigan was looking for in coach. While in Indiana, the Pacers were one of the top defensive teams in the league.

"He's very genuine," Hennigan said. "I think he believes in coaching but at the same time connecting with players. His general approach is to really treat guys not just with respect, but it's really a collaboration in his eyes. I think our guys really respond to that approach."

A one-time video coordinator for the Boston Celtics, Vogel rose through ranks as an assistant coach where building a connection with players is must. That approach never left Vogel as he went from fourth assistant to interim coach to head coach of the then-underachieving Pacers.

Vogel proved the anti-Jim O'Brien, who Vogel replaced in Indiana. Vogel attempted to reach his players and connect with them. Paul George, a rookie first-round pick coming off the bench during Vogel's interim season, was one of the players Vogel connected with best.

"Jim O'Brien is one of the hardest coaches to play for," George said. "He was old school, hard-nosed. But Frank was the exact opposite of what he was—real positive, open minded."

Under Vogel, George became a perennial All-Star.

"We had a great six years together," George said. "He's kind of just been there throughout my whole growing up in this league. From my rookie year to fatherhood to the All-Star Games, he's been there."

Despite his relationship with George and the playoff berths, Larry Bird felt it was time for a change.

Bird, the Pacers president of basketball operations, didn't renew Vogel's contract though the coach had a winning record in four of his five full seasons.

"I sensed some things over the last few years and took a lot of notes like I do every year," Bird said in a telephone interview with AP. "When his contract was up, I just thought maybe it was time right then."

Vogel had a 250-181 regular-season record and guided the Pacers to back-to-back Eastern Conference finals still has accepted the move, even if he still doesn't completely understand it.

"Part of the business," said Vogel, who also 31-30 in the playoffs after taking over for fired Jim O'Brien with 38 games to go in 2011. "I still have a lot of friends there, including Larry, who was the one who chose to make the change. I will always be grateful for him.

"I'm disappointed, I wanted to be there forever," the 43-year-old Vogel continued. "I loved living in Indiana. I loved the organization, the Simon family. I loved everything about being the Pacers coach."

Bird said building relationships with players is one Vogel's strengths.

"The main thing is he is so positive—positive energy," Bird said in a telephone interview with AP. "You felt like he could the players to believe in his system, believe in him. I thought that was a great attribute he had."

Vogel has brought the same approach to Orlando where he and Hennigan have reconfigured the Magic into the mold of his Pacers teams. The two men added power forward Serge Ibaka and free agent center Bismack Biyombo in the summer to bolster the interior defense.

The first-year Orlando coach seems to be quickly winning over the Magic players.

TOMOKANE

From Page 28

said Tomokane, who earned the right to represent the Commonwealth to the World Bodybuilding and Physique Federation-sanctioned tournament after winning the 2016 Dee Clayton Classic held early this month.

The Koblerville resident is training almost every day with two sessions (morning and afternoon) per day. He is closely watching his calorie intake and eating foods that are high in protein.

"It will take a lot of hard work and discipline to get in top shape for the competition. I need to be in my best form because I will be in a very high-level competition," the Gold's Gym trainer added.

The event in Thailand will be Tomokane's second international tournament in two years, as he also donned the colors of the CNMI in the 2015 Pacific Games held on Papua New Guinea. The 5'10" bodybuilder finished fourth in the quadrennial competition.

"It's hard to tell what will be my chances in the world championships in Thailand because I have no idea on the other competitions. What I can promise is I will be ready come competition time and I will do my best to represent the CNMI well," Tomokane said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	1	0	.857	176	107
Buffalo	4	3	0	.571	187	131
Miami	3	4	0	.429	146	159
N.Y. Jets	2	5	0	.286	119	180
South						
Houston	4	2	0	.667	108	127
Indianapolis	3	4	0	.429	194	200
Tennessee	3	4	0	.429	146	161
Jacksonville	2	4	0	.333	117	160
North						
Pittsburgh	4	3	0	.571	170	150
Baltimore	3	4	0	.429	133	139
Cincinnati	3	4	0	.429	140	162
Cleveland	0	7	0	.000	130	207
West						
Oakland	5	2	0	.714	185	179
Kansas City	4	2	0	.667	136	123
Denver	4	2	0	.667	140	108
San Diego	3	4	0	.429	206	185

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	5	1	0	.833	159	107
Philadelphia	4	2	0	.667	156	88
Washington	4	3	0	.571	159	162
N.Y. Giants	4	3	0	.571	133	141
South						
Atlanta	4	3	0	.571	229	199
Tampa Bay	3	3	0	.500	128	159
New Orleans	2	4	0	.333	176	195
Carolina	1	5	0	.167	161	176
North						
Minnesota	5	1	0	.833	129	84
Green Bay	4	2	0	.667	140	123
Detroit	4	3	0	.571	170	170
Chicago	1	6	0	.143	111	169
West						
Seattle	4	1	1	.750	111	84
Arizona	3	3	1	.500	159	110
Los Angeles	3	4	0	.429	120	154
San Francisco	1	6	0	.143	144	219

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

8TH

From Page 28

8th Division with his 15 points, while Kelvin Fitial also finished in twin digits with his 13. Eight of the nine other 8th Division players who suited up against Save More contributed at least 5 points apiece, while only three Save More standouts consistent hit their shots.

In the second game, BSI-Blue Eagle outgunned the debuting Armatech right from the get-go to establish an early double-digit lead en route to the easy victory.

BSI-Blue Eagle built a 19-6 advantage, behind the 7 points of Andrew Palino. Armatech was held to three field goals in the first quarter and all came from Jun Alipio Jr.

BSI-Blue Eagle never relinquished the driver's seat from thereon as the team welcomed back Douglas Schmidt and drew a good game from second stringer Manny Duenas. Douglas, who missed their game against Ali'i Blue Haus, had 23 points in his return, while Duenas added 11 off the bench, knocking in three triples.

Schmidt canned five treys with his back-to-back capping BSI-Blue Eagle's domination of Armatech, which made only two shots from the parking lot.

First Game

8th Division 87— J. Tabora 15, Fitial 13, Diaz 11, Lauron 9, Alipio 8, Abadilla 6, Itibus 6, Catalla 5, Esalan 5, Tenorio 5, Lansang 2.

Save More 74 — Quan 21, Mangali 16, Sison 13, Villanueva 6, Viola 6, Sanciangco 2, Maesa 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-23, 45-43, 65-60, 87-74.

Second Game

BSI-Blue Eagles 87 — Schmidt 23, Matt Duenas 13, Manny Duenas 11, Standish 9, Paulino 7, Villarin 5, Echavez 4, Raho 4, Tobias 2, De La Torre 2, Pablo 2, Hammond 2, Jinang 2, Rabago 1.

Armatech 70 — Alipio 30, Moreno 11, Montano 10, J. Malasarte 6, Park 5, Gabaldon 3, Tolosa 1.

Scoring by quarters: 19-6, 48-28, 71-50, 87-70.

TIGHT

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followed by Joshua Galarion (55th), Anthony Fruit (60th), Jonah Pohl (69th), and Ryan Relucio (78th). Earlier in the 57th minute, TanHoldings was credited with an own goal off Audre Camacho's miscue, while the club's lone goal in the first half came from Louie Calayag in the 28th minute.

The winless Kanoa avoided a shutout against TanHoldings, thanks to Kirt Andon's conversion in the 67th minute.

With its seven goals, TanHoldings now has a total of 21 and goal difference of 15 (after deducting the six goals it allowed from the combined goals it scored in six games) to place on top of the standings, just slightly ahead of MP United (seven goal difference).

MP United matched TanHoldings' 4-1-1 slate following a 1-0 win over Matansa in the other boys U17 division match. Sun Joon Tenorio knocked in the winning goal in the 63rd minute.

MP United, TanHoldings, and Matansa each have two games left in the double round-robin fall season. The squad that tops the team standings after eight games takes the championship, but in case of a two-way tie for the No. 1 spot a playoff match (not goal difference) will be played to decide the winner.

Meanwhile, the three teams in the girls U15 division are in the same tight race for the fall season championship.

Matansa and Shirley's hold similar 4-1-1 slates after their second round meeting last Saturday at the Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School Field ended in a 2-2 draw.

Guinevere Borja tallied the pair of goals for Matansa, which now has a total of 36. Jasmine Phan and Valeria Myers nailed one goal apiece for Shirley's, which has collected 25 goals in six games.

Joining Matansa and Shirley's in a three-cornered fight for the division crown is Kanoa FC, which improved to a 4-0-1 record after a 7-0 victory over TanHoldings (0-0-6).

Paulynn Joyce led Kanoa's easy win after firing six goals, five of them in succession in the second half. She got her first goal with just 45 seconds gone by in the first half, while the last five were registered in the 43rd minute, 54th, 61st, 63rd, and 64th. Kiara Maganti posted the other goal for Kanoa in the 14th minute.

Kanoa has three games left in the season, while Matansa and Shirley's have two apiece.

2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Bart Demapan, center, dribbles out of the defense of BSI-Blue Eagle's Brady Hammond, left, and Ferdie De La Torre during the third quarter of their game in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Save More's Sid Quan, left, dribbles in front of Stephen's Pawnshop's Michael Espinosa.

BSI-Blue Eagle's Tony Raho, center, is double-teamed by Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Darwin Barbo, left, and Edwin Santos.

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Tony Diaz goes up for a banked shot against 8th Division.

PC Bargain's Albert Reyes is surrounded by Maplas defenders.

Maplas' Ed Yalung pulls up for a one-hander against a PC Bargain defender.

Maplas' Joseph Galulu, right, goes up for a reverse layup against PC Bargain's Mel Manibusan.

Maplas' Jawn Joyner, right, blocks the shot of Save More's Robert Guiang.

Kickers miss short field goals, Seahawks, Cards tie 6-6

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Sports

Indians embrace underdog role in World Series against Cubs

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Tight races for division titles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

There's no room for error for the contenders in two division titles as the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League is now on its closing stage.

In the boys U17, TanHoldings Football Club and MP United FC boosted their respective championship bids after improving to similar 4-1-1 win-draw-loss records, while Matansa FC is lurking behind with its 3-2-1 card.

TanHoldings notched its fourth win in six games and first in the second round following a 7-1 demolition of Kanoa FC (0-0-5) last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. TanHoldings coasted to victory after hitting its target in the second half where it scored six goals.

Five different players made it to the board for TanHoldings in the final 40 minutes of play. Alan Hinson was the first to hand his team a goal in the second half with his shot in the 52nd minute and was

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
TanHoldings Football Club's Mareko Tekopua receives a pass from his teammate during the second half of their game against Kanoa FC during the boys U17 division game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tomokane off to World Championships

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

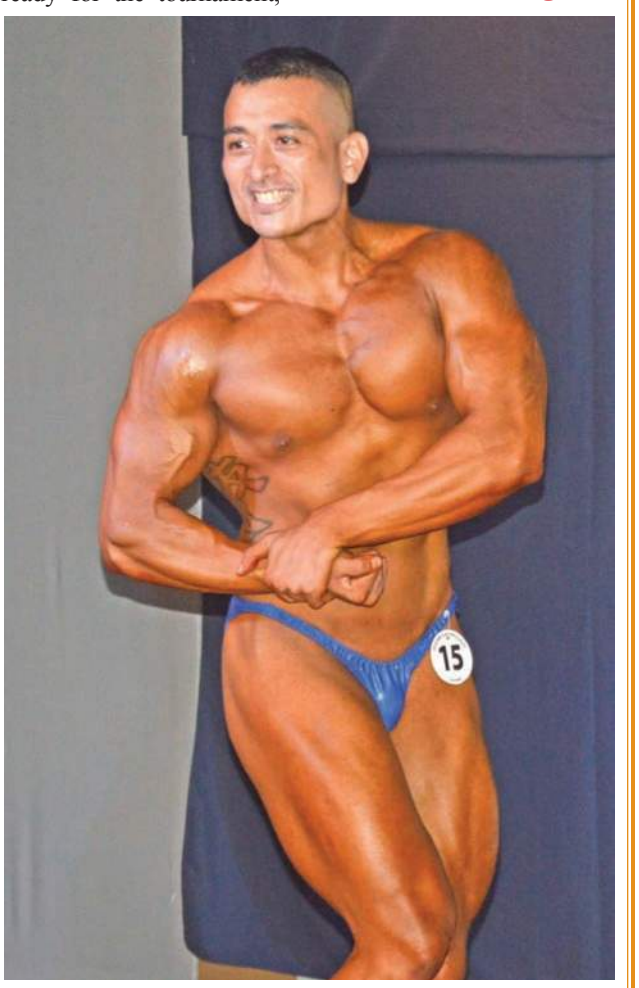
Aaron Tomokane will be representing the CNMI in the 8th World Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Championships that will be held in Pattaya, Thailand.

"This will be my biggest tournament so far and it is very challenging because I will be competing there not for myself but for the CNMI. There's an added pressure so I really have to get myself ready for the tournament," said Tomokane.

The world championships will run from Nov. 29 to Dec. 5 at the Eastern National Sports Training Center and with less than three months to go before the competition, the 23-year-old bodybuilder said he has a lot of things to work on to get reach his desired form.

"I will be joining the classic golden years of bodybuilding event which focuses on aesthetics and proportion,"

See TOMOKANE on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Aaron Tomokane strikes a pose during the 2016 Dee Clayton Classic held early this month at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

8th Division, BSI-Blue Eagle whip foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle/SMF and 8th Division/MAFEA were on target last Saturday night to hurdle their separate foes in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

BSI-Blue Eagle hammered Armatech/MDX Radio Club in the second game, 87-70, to quickly recover from its 58-67 loss to Ali'i Blue Haus last Thursday, while 8th Division had a similar double-digit win over Save More/MIFICPA in the curtain-raiser, 87-74.

8th Division, which now has an even 2-2 record, was consistent on its offense, scoring at least 20 points in each of the four quarters, and set up the baker's dozen winning margin after a strong finish. It nearly doubled up Save More's output in the fourth period, 23-14, as every 8th Division player who saw action in the final canto contributed to the latter's cause.

Seven different players scored for 8th Division in the payoff frame with Jerry Diaz leading the way, making 7 of his 11 markers in that period. 8th Division's 23 points were its second best production in a quarter, as the team tallied 25 in the second and 20 in the first and third cantos.

Save More (1-2) got off to a good start, dropping 23 in the first canto behind the combined 14 points of Elgene Mangali and Sid Quan, but slowed down in the last three periods as the team logged less than 20 markers in each frame.

Jun Tabora top-scored for

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
8th Division/MAFEA's Maverick Itibus drives against Save More/MIFICPA's Chris Lilles, right, while Marlon Sison looks on during the third quarter of their game in the UFO/IT&E caging last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.